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THE

UNITED BRETHREN'S

MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCER,

AND

Religious Miscellany:

CONTAINING THE MOST RECENT ACCOUNTS RELATING TO THE UNITED BRETHREN'S MISSIONS AMONG THE HEATHEN; WITH OTHER INTERESTING COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE RECORDS OF THAT CHURCH.

No. 11. **THIRD QUARTER, 1842.** **Vol. VII.**

[From the "Periodical Accounts," &c.]

I. LABRADOR.

The Society for the Furtherance of the Gospel has once again the privilege, of announcing the safe return of the Harmony, from her annual voyage to the coast of Labrador,—a voyage, marked on the one hand, by more than ordinary tediousness, difficulty, and peril; but distinguished on the other, by peculiarly gracious tokens of the loving-kindness and the protecting care of our Heavenly Father. On her passage out, she fell in with little or no ice, but experienced such a succession of contrary winds and storms, especially as she entered the seas, in which that barrier is usually met with, that the captain was for many days in great doubt, whether he would be able to visit any of the stations. Hopedale appearing to be altogether inaccessible, he determined to steer for Okkak, which settlement he succeeded in reaching on the 18th of August, after encountering on the 12th, a rather violent gale, which did some damage to the sails and rigging. From Okkak, the vessel pursued her course to Hebron, where she arrived on the 29th of August; thence to Nain, where she delivered a portion of the cargo destined for Hopedale, as it seemed doubtful, owing to the lateness of the season and the continuance of adverse winds, whether she would be able to make that port. These supplies were sent forward without delay, by a large sailing-boat, and, it is to be hoped, were in due season safely delivered. After a trying and difficult passage, the Harmony reached Hopedale on the 20th of September, and, while lying in the harbor of that settlement, rode out a furious storm, which at one time threatened to tear her from her moorings and drive her upon the rocks. On the 2d of October, she sailed from the last-mentioned place, and after a boisterous but speedy passage across the Atlantic, cast anchor at Horsely-down on the 23d of the same month.

The accounts she has brought us from our several stations in Labrador, are of a varied nature. During the progress of the year

which our dear brethren are called to review, trials and mercies have been plentifully intermingled. On the whole, the blessing of health has been enjoyed by the several mission-families. The only serious exceptions occurred at Okkak, where the Sisters Knauss and Hertzberg were confined to their beds at the same time by alarming illnesses; at Nain, where Brother Seldenschlo suffered long from rheumatism and a severe affection of the eyes, and at Hebron, where the increasing bodily infirmity of Brother Morhardt, caused much anxiety to his fellow-servants. Brother F. Erdman has come home on a visit, having in charge one of the children of Brother and Sister Glitsch.

The seasons had proved by nó means favorable, either for the raising of garden-produce for the mission-table, or the gathering in of the provision, which the Esquimaux finds needful for his subsistence. At Okkak and Nain, many of the poor people had in consequence to suffer hunger, though famine was mercifully averted. Of the Heathen population living at a distance from the mission-settlements, many are reported to have perished for want of food.

Of the spiritual state of the several congregations, there is nothing very striking to report. The word of God is evidently not bound, nor his gospel preached in vain:—but the missionaries feel, that there is great need of a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord, and for this they earnestly pray. At Nain, the influence of the Southland traffickers continues to be peculiarly hurtful to the poor Esquimaux.

Our brethren express themselves in terms of the warmest gratitude, for the copies of the Esquimaux Pentateuch, presented for the use of the mission, by the British and Foreign Bible Society; and for the new edition of the Esquimaux Hymn-Book, for which they are indebted to the Society for the Furtherance of the Gospel. The series of valuable scripture prints, sent to each of the stations, promised to afford equal delight and instruction to the children in the schools.

The cargo brought by the Harmony, we regret to say, is unusually small, and will probably fall very short of the expense, which will be incurred by the outfit of the vessel next year. The Committee of the Society need hardly observe, that under these circumstances, any extraordinary gifts, which their dear Brethren or Christian friends may be disposed to cast into their treasury, will be accepted with peculiar thankfulness, as help sent them by that gracious Lord who has hitherto supplied their wants, and blessed their efforts for the furtherance of his gospel among the Heathen, and especially among the dwellers on the coast of Labrador.

LETTERS RECEIVED BY THE BRETHREN'S SOCIETY FOR THE FURTHERANCE OF THE GOSPEL FROM THE MISSIONARIES ON THE COAST OF LABRADOR.

FROM OKKAK.

"*August 25th*, 1841.

"Dear Brethren,—Having waited for several days, anxiously but vainly, for the expected intelligence of the arrival of the Har-

mony on the coast of Labrador, you may easily conceive, that the report of a vessel having been seen in our neighborhood, which was brought us by the Esquimaux early on the morning of the 18th instant, excited in our breasts feelings of a very peculiar nature. We knew, from the experience of many years, that our captain would not think of steering, in the first instance, for this port, without the utmost necessity; and we were, therefore, naturally apprehensive, that if the ship which had been seen were really the Harmony, some accident must have befallen her on her passage out. A very short time was sufficient to clear up the mystery, and to relieve us from our faithless fears. We soon ascertained that it was none other than our missionary bark, which was approaching, and that, though a succession of contrary winds and tempestuous weather, had retarded her arrival in these seas, and driven her out of her ordinary course, she had been graciously protected from all serious injury, and no evil had been permitted to befal any of the company on board.

"By the receipt of these welcome tidings, our spirits were cheered, and our hearts filled with thankfulness to the Lord, for his gracious dealings with ourselves and our fellow-servants in this mission; nor did we fail to enter his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise, and to bring unto him, in fellowship with our whole congregation, the tribute of fervent gratitude, which we felt to be due unto his name for his loving-kindness, his mercy, and his faithfulness. About one o'clock, in the afternoon of the abovementioned day, the vessel dropped anchor in our harbor, when we had the great pleasure to welcome our worthy Captain Taylor, Mr. Sutherland, and our dear Brother Martin, who is destined to be our fellow-laborer in this mission.

"Your interesting circular was perused by us all with much attention, and we felt ourselves excited by the review of various occurrences connected with our church and missions, which it contained, to praise the Lord for all the benefits conferred upon ourselves and our dear brethren, and to dedicate ourselves anew to his blessed service. We were rejoiced to hear, that the cargo of last year proved more than usually productive, sufficiently so to defray the expenses attendant on the outfit of the vessel, and the support of the mission. We wish we could cherish the hope, that the same would be the case this year, but owing to a variety of circumstances, we are able to make you but a poor return for the abundant supply of provisions and stores which you have again forwarded to us.

"The year past, though rich in trying experiences, was not less remarkable for the merciful help and support vouchsafed to us by our gracious Master. On the very day on which the Harmony quitted us last year, the strength of our already enfeebled missionary household was materially reduced, by a bodily injury received by our dear Brother Erdman, and which rendered him, for some time, incapable of attending to the more laborious duties of his calling. On the 31st of December, Brother and Sister Hertzberg were rejoiced by the birth of a son, who received in baptism the name *John Nicholas*. Sister Knauss was, at this time, the only member

of our mission-family who could wait upon Sister Hertzberg, and having to expose herself to a continual change of atmosphere, while acting the double part of housekeeper and nurse, she caught a severe cold, which terminated in an attack of very severe erysipelas in the face, whereby she was herself confined to her bed for 14 days. Sister Hertzberg being thus obliged to exert herself too soon, suffered a relapse, which confined her also to her bed for the second time; and to add to her distress, her child was attacked by the thrush, from which he continued long a sufferer. Our distress and perplexity under these circumstances, may easily be conceived. We had no resource left us, but to apply to Hebron for assistance; and truly thankful we were to see Brother Vollprecht arrive with us from that station on February 16th. This season of trial being past, we were all favored to enjoy a remarkably good state of health, which mercy we desire to record, to the praise of our gracious Lord and Saviour.

"Among our Esquimaux, there occurred also several cases of severe sickness, as well as more than one dangerous accident. Last autumn, a man shot off the upper joints of two of his fingers, and seriously injured the third. When he came hither, shortly before Christmas, his hand was almost in a state of mortification, the fore-finger being an inch and a half in thickness. Another man, on his way home from one of the distant provision-places, had one of his legs crushed by a sledge, and broken below the knee. By the gracious help of the Lord, both these patients were, however, restored to health and soundness after a few weeks' suffering.

"It also happened, that just at a time when our own need was the greatest, many of our people were lying seriously ill, and requiring to be daily visited and supplied with medicines at their own homes. Many of them had to suffer from eruptive disorders and ulcers, yet the number of fatal cases was but few. Only eight persons departed this life, while 16 children were born in the course of the year.

"The supply of provision was by no means abundant. Last autumn, our Esquimaux caught few seals, either in kayaks or in nets. It was long before the seals approached our coasts, and when, at length, they made their appearance in the beginning of December, the weather was so stormy, that the hunters had no success; on the subsiding of the tempest, all the inlets froze so hard, that the chase had to be entirely discontinued. Most of the Esquimaux having meanwhile laid in a good store of dried cod, were enabled to provide subsistence for their families during the winter, so that it was March, before any serious want of the necessaries of life was experienced. From that time, however, few of them had any food, but what they borrowed from the store, or what they earned from us by cutting fire-wood, or preparing timber for the use of the mission. Several families continued in great distress up to the middle of July. Nor was the number of those who succeeded in the seal-hunt, on the return of spring, at all considerable. It was remarkable, that during the whole winter, there were few traces either of hares or foxes. Of rein-deer a good number were killed, both in the autumn and the spring following.

"The spiritual course of our congregation presented a mixture of pleasing and discouraging circumstances. Four persons had to be excluded on account of transgression, though of these two were subsequently re-admitted, on shewing signs of sincere penitence. Two occurrences caused us more than usual anxiety and distress. In the spring of the present year, we learnt that several old Esquimaux women, together with our chapel-servant Jacob, had used heathenish incantations, for the purpose of hastening the recovery of Isaac, another chapel-servant, from an alarming and imperfectly understood illness: an act which afforded a convincing proof, that notwithstanding all their smooth words, they did not rest their faith and hope simply and solely on Christ Jesus, the only helper in time of need. We were, in consequence, under the painful necessity, of suspending these persons from the enjoyment of the Lord's Supper. On representing to them the heinousness of their offence, they all, with the exception of one of the women, acknowledged their sin, and promised solemnly that they would never be guilty of the like again. The other circumstance to which we allude, has reference to our chapel-servant Benjamin, a man in whom we had previously placed great confidence. On the return of this man from the south, we learnt, to our sorrow and annoyance, that he had actually held out inducements to the Southland trader, who has settled near Nain, to come and try his fortune in our neighborhood. This information surprised and disappointed us the more, because Benjamin had himself expressed to one of our communicant brethren, before he set out, his conviction that the near abode of the Southlander in question was very injurious to the congregation at Nain, inasmuch as he was the means of misleading them, to the commission of many things, that were contrary to the word of God, and to the rules of the congregation. The duplicity of which Benjamin has thus shewn himself capable, has occasioned us much concern and distress.

"Of the majority of the members of our congregation, we have no complaint to make; many are evidently giving diligence to make their calling and election sure. The services at church were well and numerously attended throughout the winter, and the speaking with individuals proved generally encouraging to us. Two adults received the holy rite of baptism in the course of the year; 7 persons, baptized in infancy, were received into the congregation, and 9 persons were admitted to the Lord's Supper. The number of souls under our care at this settlement, amounts to 360; of whom 156 are communicants, 60 baptized adults, 137 children.

"The children were pretty regular in their attendance at school, and many made good progress in learning. We wish we could say this of all.

"Our gardens yielded an abundant return last autumn, so that we had fresh vegetables at our table nearly the whole winter. Of fresh meat on the other hand, our supply was very scanty. The winter proved mild; at times, the weather was really fine. Reaumur's thermometer never fell lower than 25° under 0, (24° under Fahr. 0.) Snow appeared in small quantities till the Passion-week,

at which time there was a considerable fall. The winter-ice left our bay, on the 24th of June; but drift-ice soon arrived to fill its place. The summer has thus far proved wet and cold; we have scarcely had 20 fine days, so that our gardens are very backward.

"To all our British friends and benefactors, we beg to express our cordial thanks, for all their kind liberality to us and our people; praying the Lord to bestow upon them an abundant reward of grace.

"The ship and company, together with our dear Brother Erdman, who is invited to pay a visit to Europe, we fervently commend to the protecting care of our God and Saviour; and beg to assure you of our affectionate remembrance and intercessions.

"G. Fr. Knauss, Fr. Erdman,
"G. Hertzberg, J. Tr. Vollprecht."

FROM HEBRON.

"*August 30th*, 1841.

"Dear Brethren,—The feelings of your brethren on the coast of Labrador, were very similar to those which you describe in the opening paragraph of your esteemed letter of the 28th of May, while anxiously expecting the intelligence, that the Harmony had once more been brought in safety to this desolate coast. In the present instance, our faith and patience were more severely tried than had been the case for two-and-twenty years; for it was not till the 22d of August, that a post-kayak brought us the glad tidings of her arrival at Okkak, together with our annual supply of letters and reports. Glad as we should have been, if the ship had been able according to custom, to visit Hopedale first, we were not the less disposed to offer to the Lord our heartfelt tribute of thanksgiving for the merciful protection she had experienced on her outward voyage, and for the abundant provision which He had again graciously made for our necessities. The review which your kind letter invites us to take of the events of the past year, affords matter sufficient for profitable consideration, and for thankfulness to our gracious God. We have gratefully to acknowledge the manifold spiritual and temporal blessings, which both ourselves and our Esquimaux flock have enjoyed at his hand. During the progress of the winter months, every one who desired pasture for his soul, was able to obtain it by attendance at our daily services, none having been compelled to seek his subsistence at a distance from the settlement, the weather being for the most part mild and favorable. We had ordinarily the satisfaction to see our church well filled, though there were not wanting such, as manifested indifference to the means of grace, and the privilege of assembling themselves together. The celebration of the Lord's Supper was neglected by few of our communicants. The lately appointed national assistant *Renatus*, has approved himself to us a true yoke-fellow and helper of our joy. He has been indefatigable in his endeavors, to promote the spiritual well-being of his countrymen; and we have been constrained thankfully to acknowledge the gifts and grace bestowed upon him. We implore the Lord, to preserve him in simplicity and humility of heart, and to render him increasingly useful to our Esquimaux, during the time of their periodical dispersion.

"The admissions to church-fellowship were but few, whether by baptism or reception; but a goodly company became participants for the first time of the Lord's Supper. Five couples were married; eight persons came to us from the heathen, and two removed hither from Okkak. At the close of the year 1840, the congregation consisted of 178 persons. Since that time, it has been increased by 14 persons, and now amounts to 192.

"The number of children in our schools was greater than ever before, amounting to 57. This increase was caused in part, by the attendance of some who were above the regular school age, and who distinguished themselves by their eagerness to receive instruction. The greatest progress was, however, made by some of the youngest children, whose rapid acquisition of knowledge rendered it almost necessary for us, to form them into a separate class, and give them instruction of a superior kind. Pupils of this description continue, however, to constitute the minority in every Esquimaux school. The little presents for the more diligent and well-behaved, were distributed equally to our gratification, as to that of the receivers, and called forth many expressions of thankfulness to the generous donors.

"The temporal wants of our people were abundantly supplied by our Heavenly Father, especially during the autumn and winter. In spring, the seal-hunt was less productive, and we begin to be anxious about the consequences, which might have proved distressing enough, had not our people been induced by this very circumstance, to be more diligent in fishing. One cause of the indifferent success of our seal-hunters was the mildness of the winter, owing to which, the ice seldom attained a sufficient thickness, to be ventured upon with perfect safety. Again, the masses of drift-ice which crowded our narrow seas and inlets, made the navigation of kayaks, not a little dangerous, and that, just at a time when seals began to pass along the coast.

"From the Northland heathen we have had an encouraging increase, amounting to eight individuals of various ages. Six of these came from Sæglek, where Brother Freitag paid a visit last winter, with the assistant Renatus, earnestly exhorting the settlers at that place, to accept the gracious invitations of the gospel. These newcomers manifest great attention to all they hear; and though we cannot yet declare our belief, that they are truly converted, we have reason to hope that they are under the influence of Divine grace.

"We regret to inform you, that Brother Morhardt had much to suffer last winter, from a complaint in his legs, which for some time made us feel very anxious about him; and though his health is improved, he continues very far from strong. On July 1st, an infant son was born to Brother and Sister Freitag, whom, however, they were called to resign into the hands of the Friend of children, after they had possessed the treasure for the short period of seven weeks. In these and all other trials and difficulties, the Lord has approved himself our Helper, Comforter, and Almighty Friend.

"Yesterday, we had the joy to see the Harmony cast anchor in our bay, and we have at present the great pleasure of personal in-

tercourse with those who have seen and conversed with our dear brethren and friends in Europe, and likewise with our dear Brother Erdman, who will be able to give you verbal intelligence concerning us.

"J. L. Morhardt, Jona. Mentzel, August Freitag."

FROM NAIN.

"*September* 13*th*, 1841.

"Dear Brethren,—If our annual letter seldom fails to commence with a description of our hopes and fears, while looking forward to the arrival of the Harmony, we venture to think that you are not displeased or impatient at this constant recurrence to a subject, which has certainly lost the charm of novelty. You are too well acquainted with our situation and peculiar circumstances in this vast solitude, not to be able in some measure to sympathize in those feelings, as well as in our overflowing joy and gratitude, as often as we are permitted to welcome the approach of the vessel to our shores.

"It was on the 23d of August that this favor was again conferred upon us, on which occasion the emotions of our hearts were in unison with the language of the Psalmist in Ps. cxvi. 7: 'Return unto thy rest, O my soul, for the Lord hath dealt bountifully with thee.' On the morning of the 24th, our mission-family assembled, and brought the Lord a tribute of glad thanksgiving, for this renewed token of his loving-kindness and his faithfulness.

"We proceed to give you some particulars of the dealings of the Lord with ourselves, and our Esquimaux congregation. The past year, like that which preceded it, was marked by manifold experiences of the Divine help, both in temporal things, and in the care of the souls for whom we are appointed to watch. The summer of 1840 was, for this climate, a fine one; till the middle of October, the weather continued so mild and favorable, that we were able to proceed with the repair and improvement of our church, as rapidly as our other occupations would permit, and to see it completed before the winter set in, with the exception of the wainscoting in the interior, and the painting of the wood-work. These latter operations were finished in the course of the ensuing spring, to general satisfaction. In September, we were meanwhile reminded by the return of nightly frosts, and by the snowy covering upon the mountains, that it was time to secure the produce of our gardens. This we accordingly did, in the beginning of October, and had much cause to be thankful for the abundant supply provided for us, so that we could testify with the apostle, 'That God left not himself without witness, in that He did us good, sending rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons.' Acts xiv. 17.

"Our Esquimaux, we regret to say, were less abundantly provided with the necessaries of life. The cod-fishery having in a great measure failed, many of our Esquimaux families had completely exhausted their stock of food, by the beginning of December, and were compelled to depend upon the benevolence of their countrymen, or to apply to the store for temporary assistance. We now hoped, that success would attend the attempt to take seals in

nets: but as this also failed, the distress became general, and at one time amounted almost to a famine. We could not remain unconcerned spectators of so much misery, but afforded the sufferers such help as our means permitted. At the same time, we did not fail to remind them of the necessity of shewing themselves less careless and remiss, in seasons when the supply of fish is tolerably abundant, and not less of their duty, to practice a larger measure of economy in the conduct of their housekeeping. The poor widows and other destitute and aged persons were the especial objects of our attention, and most thankful we were, to be enabled, through the benevolence of British friends, to relieve the more pressing wants of these helpless sufferers.

"It was, meanwhile, an encouragement to us, to notice the numerous attendance of our people at church, and to observe their great attention to the Word of God, and the exhortations founded thereon; and though occurrences of a painful nature were not wanting, we had the joy to discover many traces of a work of the Spirit of God in their hearts. Last autumn, a malignant catarrh was very prevalent; and in the spring of the present year, many were attacked by influenza. In these visitations, the members of our mission-family had their share. Most of the patients recovered, with the exception of very young children, of whom eight departed this life, partly, we have reason to fear, in consequence of the severe privations to which they were exposed.

"The school examination on the 31st of March, afforded us much satisfaction. It was evident, that the winter season had been turned to good account by the generality of our pupils. We are much pleased at the thought of receiving the present referred to in your letter, viz., a series of prints, illustrative of scripture characters and history, and we anticipate much benefit from the use of it. To the kind friend, to whom we are indebted for this valuable gift, we return our heartfelt thanks.

"The Esquimaux hymn-books, of which you have sent us a supply, are a most valuable present to our congregations. To the Committee of the British and Foreign Bible Society, you will express our cordial thanks for the copies of the Five Books of Moses, which they have presented us. We can truly declare, that the Word of God is very precious to the members of our Esquimaux flock, and that they find instruction and profit, in the perusal of every portion of its contents that is already in their hands. Of this we were anew convinced by the simple and heartfelt declarations which fell from many of them when they came to converse with us. Once in the course of last winter, old Sarah expressed herself as follows, with reference to her distressed situation:—'When I am called to endure bodily suffering, I do not greatly grieve over it; but if my soul is famished, I am truly comfortless; for while the body is perishable, the soul will exist for ever; and it stands in need of daily nourishment, if it is not to languish. This nourishment, our Saviour has himself procured by all that he has done and suffered, and he dispenses it to us by means of his Holy Word.'

"The following incidents have marked the history of our mis-

sion-family :—On the 18th of November, Brother and Sister Allbrecht were rejoiced by the birth of a son, named Charles Gustavus in holy baptism, by whose early departure, after a short pilgrimage of four weeks, their parental feelings received a severe shock. An infant son born to Br. and Sr. Fritsche on the 8th of August, and named Charles Adolphus, has continued to thrive, to the great comfort of his parents. With the exception of Brother Seldenschlo, who had much to suffer from a painful affection of the eyes, the brethren and sisters were blessed with good health.

"In the course of the year past, 17 Esquimaux children were born and baptized; 3 persons received into the congregation; 5 admitted to the Holy Communion; 2 couples were married; 3 adults and 8 children departed this life. Of those who had wandered from the fold, 9 returned to the fellowship of the believers.

"The congregation consists of 105 communicants; 34 received; 32 baptized adults; 134 baptized children; 18 not yet baptized, but under instruction. Total, 323 persons.

"We commend these dear souls, and ourselves, their feeble and unworthy ministering servants, to the remembrance and intercession of our dear brethren and sisters, and friends."

"John Lundberg, F. C. Fritsche,
"C. G. Albrecht, C. G. Seldenschlo."

FROM HOPEDALE.

"*September* 23*d*, 1841.

"Dear Brethren,—When we had reached the middle of July, our eyes were often eagerly directed towards the sea, in the hope that we should be able to discern a channel by which the Harmony might approach our shores; but as far as the horizon extended, nothing was to be discerned but an immense compact body of ice. This discouraging spectacle caused us to pour forth many sighs and fervent prayers to our God and Saviour, whose help, in time of need, we have so often experienced; and He did not reject our petitions, nor put our confidence to shame. The interval which elapsed before we heard of the safe arrival of the ship at Okkak, proved, indeed, a severe trial of our faith and patience; the more so as the entire disappearance of the ice, in the last days of July, rendered it peculiarly difficult to account satisfactorily for the non-arrival of the vessel in the port in which she is wont first to cast anchor.

"The kind letter which you have addressed to us, and the supplies of various kinds which we have again thankfully to acknowledge, were received by us as so many proofs of your continued affectionate interest in the well-being of this mission. May the Lord grant to you, and to all our dear British friends, an abundant reward of grace for all that you have done to promote our comfort, and the prosperity of the work in which we are engaged!

"The past year proved a period of much trial and distress for our Esquimaux. The failure of their ordinary means of subsistence, was the occasion of much suffering during the winter, and the spring following. The Lord, however, gave us to experience, that when the need is greatest, his help is often nighest. When the ice

was driven out of our bay on June 12th, we feared that the opportunity of taking seals was passed, for such is ordinarily the case under these circumstances. However, on the arrival of the drift ice, which almost immediately took place, the seals endeavored to force a passage into the bay; in consequence of which, the Esquimaux who had remained here, succeeded in capturing a great number, and we had the pleasure to see their tents hung round with a goodly quantity of seals' flesh, which they dried, and laid by against a time of scarcity.

"Concerning our spiritual labors, we are able to testify to the praise of our Saviour, that his blessing has not been withholden from them. The various services at church, both public and private, have been generally well attended, and the Lord has been with his assembled people according to his Word. To the majority of the members of our flock, we can give the testimony that they have made it their endeavor, amid all their faults and failings, to order their conversation according to the Divine Word. The schools have been well and punctually attended, especially by the younger children, and their improvement has given us satisfaction. We earnestly pray on behalf of these dear young people, that they may not only learn to read the Word of God, and to commit its precepts to memory, but that they may also make saving experience of the precious truths which it contains. Every year do we find fresh cause to lament the periodical dispersion of our Esquimaux families, whereby the children and youth are deprived of so many opportunities of spiritual instruction and mental culture.

"The past winter was by no means severe, but the summer of the present year proves very unfavorable for garden produce, owing to the very changeable weather. We have particularly to regret the loss of our potato crop, nearly the whole of which was destroyed by a severe frost, in the night between the 17th and 18th of July. Mice have also done much mischief in our gardens.

"Our mission-family has been mercifully preserved from any serious attacks of illness. Among the members of our Esquimaux congregation who have departed this life, we have particularly to regret our principal national assistant and chapel-servant Amos, who for many years has adorned the gospel by a godly walk and conversation, and given a good example to his country.

"On the 20th inst. we had the pleasure to see the Harmony arrive with us from Nain, and to welcome our dear Brother Erdman, and our worthy friends Capt. Taylor and Mr. Sutherland. We commend them to the blessing and protection of the Lord during their future voyage, and beseech Him to bring the ship and company once again in safety into the desired haven.

"J. P. Stock, J. C. Beck,
"Z. Glitsch, C. Barsoe."

[From the "Periodical Accounts," &c.]

II. SOUTH AFRICA.

From the brethren employed in this important mission, but few letters have of late come to hand. The subjoined extracts from three which have been received, will be perused with interest; as will also the Diary of Genadendal, for 1840, containing scattered notices of the concluding labors of our late dear and lamented Brother Hallbeck.

DIARY OF GENADENDAL, FOR THE YEAR 1840.

Being deeply convinced, from past experience, that the mercy of the Lord endureth for ever towards them that fear Him, we entered the new year in a solemn manner; sermons being preached both in the church and school-house, and the heart-cheering presence of God our Saviour was felt in all our meetings.

On the 6*th*, we celebrated the festival of Epiphany with a public morning service, and an address to the received members of our Church. Brother and Sister Stein conversed, on the days following, with the baptized and candidates for the Lord's Supper; but regretted to perceive a great backwardness on the part of the young people to converse on spiritual subjects.

In our mission-conference on the 10*th*, 21 persons were advanced in church-privileges, viz. 7 to be candidates for the communion, and 10 to be confirmed; 4 were re-admitted.

On the 17*th*, 49 persons were again advanced in church-privileges.

On the 1*st of February*, Brother Hallbeck visited at Kopjes-Kasteel, and marked out the foundation of the chapel, which it is intended to erect there, 53 feet by 23. Its erection cannot yet be commenced, because there is no running stream in the place, and but little rain-water to be found in the pits.

On the 7*th*, was the interment of Charlotte Orzom, a girl of 15 years, who had been baptized in March last year. A disorder which does not generally prove fatal, here called Pampoene, was the means of her departure. The day previous she had been at school in perfect health; but afterwards got a swelling on the neck, with which many children are at present afflicted. By incautious bathing, the disorder struck inward, and brought on spasms which hastened her departure. A brother, who visited her a few hours before her end, relates the following, in reference to her state of mind: "When entering her hut, I found many neighbors assembled. The patient lay with her eyes shut. A woman kneeling at her bedside, was continually immersing a linen cloth in cold water, and applying it to her mouth, and she sucked in the water with great avidity. When I spoke to her, and laid hold of her hand, she knew me by my voice, and mentioned my name. Having told me that she had been baptized last year, and ever since remained in communion with God her Saviour, and that she rejoiced to go to Heaven at so early an age, she broke out all at once with great animation into these words: 'Ah, I love the Lord with all my heart! With my whole heart I cleave to thee—and thou wilt come and dwell with me;—this is my consolation! In joy and pain my soul depends on thee with

humble confidence, thou rock of my salvation!' She then sank down exhausted, and in two hours after this affecting scene, her ransomed soul winged its flight to Heaven."

From the 15*th* to the 26*th* of *February*, 54 Hottentot couples were married in the manner sanctioned by the new marriage law.

March 3*d*, Brother and Sister Stein set out on their return to Europe, having been commended to the Lord's care and protection. They have in their charge seven children of missionaries, who are to be placed for education in our schools in Germany. Brother Stein, who on account of ill health is returning with his wife to Europe, has served this mission more than 20 years in blessing. He enjoyed the love and confidence of the congregation in a high degree. His medical skill and services will long be gratefully remembered. He shewed himself very diligent in visiting the Hottentots, and especially the sick, in their houses, which afforded him many opportunities to admonish, comfort, and edify the brethren and sisters from the Word of God, in which he took great delight.

April 7*th*, was the funeral of the communicant, Peter Plaisier. He was a very old man, well acquainted with the Word of God, loved the Lord sincerely, and walked in the midst of the congregation, in a quiet and peaceable manner. For many years he was chapel-servant, and attended to this office faithfully. But it was to be regretted, that a certain degree of instability appeared to be stamped on his character; which however, as appeared on many occasions, was kept in bounds by the grace of God dwelling in him.

The 10*th*, the earthly remains of the communicant, Sister Joanna Wittboy, were interred in our burial-ground. She was a faithful follower of Jesus, and universally beloved and esteemed; a woman of sound sense, and deeply rooted in faith and love to Christ. She counted it a favor to serve the congregation as chapel-servant. During her last illness, she was very patient, and resigned to the will of God, though she desired to depart, and to be with Christ, whose sufferings and death were the only foundation on which she rested her hope of eternal happiness. "In me, and in my doings, there is no merit," thus she expressed herself,—"my Saviour's blood will acquit me in the day of judgment, having blotted out my transgressions."

On the 14*th*, 94 persons were advanced in church-privileges in our mission-conference.

Easter-Sunday was a day of rich blessing, on which we had the pleasure of seeing nearly all the inhabitants of the settlement, and members of our congregation assembled. The morning was clear, and at sun-rise we proceeded into the burial-ground, for the purpose of reading the Easter-morning litany, accompanied by the players on musical instruments, and a multitude of about 2000 persons. During the public service, church and school-house were crowded with hearers, and a considerable number had to listen at the open windows. In the afternoon, the largest number which ever had been baptized in our church, were by that sacred rite initiated into the Christian Church: 31 persons, viz. 18 men and 13 women, solemnly renouncing the world, the flesh and the devil, received the seal of their covenant with the Triune God in this Sacrament.

May 1*st*, we held an examination with our female scholars, at which we found great reason to be pleased with their progress in learning. There were 126 children present, of whom 43 can read and translate from the New Testament in English pretty well: 94 read the same in Dutch very fluently. The remaining 32 are mostly the children of apprentices, who have not been long at school. Some of them, however, read very tolerably in the reading lessons. At the conclusion, 31 having finished their education, left the school, and the examination closed with praise and prayer.

The readiness of the emancipated Negroes to pay the poll-tax to Government, is worthy of remark. Although Government does not enforce the payment of this tax by these poor people, but leaves it quite to their own choice whether they will pay it not, yet the greater part of those living here have paid it already, and daily such as were not at home on the pay-day come to pay it afterwards.

On the 10*th*, a violent storm arose, which lasted the whole following night, and stripped most of the apple-trees of their beautiful fruit. The house of a Hottentot built of stones could not resist the fury of the wind, but fell, yet in such a way, that none of the inmates, who had retired to bed, were in the least injured.

On the 14*th*, Brother de Fries went to Matjes-gat, to inter the remains of a daughter of Mr. Chr. Groenwald, who had departed on the 12th, by means of a violent fever, relying on the merits of her Saviour. On this occasion, the assembled friends and relatives were seriously addressed on the subject of death and eternity. Two other daughters of this worthy man lie ill of the same fever, and are not yet out of danger.

On the 22*d* and the following days, Brother and Sister de Fries were engaged in conversing with the baptized and candidates for the Communion. They reported to the mission-conference, that they had derived much edification from these conversations; as it was evident that many of these persons possess a very satisfactory acquaintance with the doctrines of the gospel, are able to express themselves clearly, and appear to have experienced the grace of God in their hearts.

On the 6*th* of *July*, the same Brother and Sister conversed with the catechumens, candidates for baptism, and baptized children. Their report concerning these conversations agreed with the testimony given on a former occasion, concerning the state of mind of these divisions of the congregation, viz. that there is among them an earnest desire to become children of God, and living members of the body of Christ. We have no reason to complain of the conduct of the former slaves, who have lived among us only one year and a half. They go out to their work, and return quietly, and behave themselves very peaceably and orderly; they frequent the church diligently, and shew great devotion. In consequence of these conversations, 71 persons were advanced in church-privileges, at the mission-conference, on the 10th.

On the 18*th*, departed Jonas Vertyn, who had become a communicant in 1825; but, after some time, forfeited this privilege by his licentious conduct. He was a strong and powerful man, and might,

as it regarded his bodily constitution, have lived a long time; but an accident he met with a week ago hastened his departure. He was carrying a heavy burden of reeds, for thatching houses, on his back, and being tired, rested against the parapet-wall of the bridge with the burden on his shoulders; but his foot slipped, and he fell with his chest against some stones, whereby he received an internal hurt, which hastened his end. The nearer he approached towards his end, the greater became his anxiety for the salvation of his soul. As he seemed to have sought and found pardon for his sins, and his dissolution was rapidly drawing near, we granted his earnest desire to be re-admitted to our fellowship, commending him in fervent prayer to the compassionate Friend of sinners. When he was informed of his re-admission, he expressed his pleasure by cheerfully bowing his head, and a cordial pressure of our hands.

Towards evening, on the 25*th*, was the funeral of the girl, Elizabeth Jacobs. Some years ago she lost her mother, and in her stead got a step-mother, who neglected her and her brothers and sisters very much. This induced her father to place three of his children with other people. Elizabeth, the oldest, he offered as a servant to Brother and Sister Hallbeck, who accepted of her, in hopes that she might one day become useful as an assistant in the school, or in some other way. But symptoms of a decline soon made their appearance in her, which reduced her strength more rapidly than we expected. Her conduct was always commendable, and she shewed great diligence and perseverance in learning. It also appeared, that she lived in communion with God. At her baptism, shortly before her death, she was no longer able to speak; but shewed by her countenance and whole demeanor, that she was deeply affected.

August 3*d*, we held an examination of the pupils at the institution for training assistants, and were pleased to perceive, that they had made considerable progress in the different branches of learning, since the last examination.

The 17*th*, Brother Hallbeck went to Kopjes-Kasteel, where, on the 19*th*, the foundation-stone of a chapel was laid, and the building of it commenced in the name of the Lord, with prayer for his blessing. To the service, held on this occasion, many colonists likewise came, who are much interested in this undertaking.

September 11*th*, the annual examination of the boys' school was held, at which 103 were present, of whom more than 80 read out of the Dutch New Testament, and more than 40 in the English New Testament. The elder boys are well versed in writing and arithmetic. It was evident, that our labor has not been in vain, for which we brought the Lord our cordial thanks.

On the 15*th*, was the examination of our infant-school, when 163 little children were present.

October 8*th*, at five o'clock, P. M., his Excellency, Governor Napier, his lady, two sons, and some gentlemen arrived here. In the evening, they attended Divine worship; and the next morning they spent in the midst of our school-children, in whose advancement in learning they seemed much interested. They pursued their journey at one o'clock.

The 12*th*, a great part of our people were engaged in making new water-courses, whereby they hope to prevent the inundation of their gardens in very rainy seasons.

November 10*th*, was the solemn confirmation of 8 persons, to whom Brother Schopman, who had given them instruction in the doctrines of the Christian religion for four weeks, gives the testimony, that they are resolved not to live unto themselves, but unto Him who died for them, and rose again. Two of them cannot read, yet they voluntarily committed to memory all the texts of scripture and hymns which the others were desired to learn, which must have given them a great deal of trouble.

On the 16*th*, Brother Hallbeck was taken ill with the same disorder by which he had already been attacked four times, which, on the 25th, ended in his happy departure.

The deepest grief pervaded the whole congregation on this mournful occasion. When the departure of this worthy, indefatigable, and eminently useful servant of the Lord was made known to the congregation in the church, no one could sing for weeping. At his funeral, on the 27th, all our neighbors were present. All the inhabitants of Genadendal, who were engaged in work over a widely extended tract of country, left their homes and occupations, and hastened to the funeral, as soon as they received the mournful intelligence. Our late Brother had enjoyed the esteem and confidence of high and low in an eminent degree.

In the evening of the 29*th*, it was announced to the congregation, that Brother and Sister Teutsch had accepted a call, to succeed Brother and Sister Hallbeck in the service of Genadendal *ad interim*, in reference to which they were commended to the Lord's blessing.

December 24*th*. The meeting on Christmas-eve was enlivened by the children singing Hosanna. All the services at Christmas were numerously attended.

The congregation at Genadendal consisted, at the end of the year 1840, of 2,187 persons, 174 more than the preceding year. Of these, 693 are communicants, 152 candidates for the communion, 225 baptized adults 413 baptized children, 223 candidates for baptism, 481 catechumens.

For these persons committed to our care, as well as for ourselves, we request the prayers and intercession of all our brethren, sisters, and friends.

(Signed) C. L. Teutsch, P. H. Brauer, C. G. Sonderman, S. Gysin, J. A. de Fries, E. H. Kschischang. H. B. Schopmann,

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BROTHER L. TEUTSCH.

"*Genadendal, July* 17*th*, 1841.

"Dear Brother,—Your kind letters of the 28*th* of *February* and 31*st* of *March*, came to hand on the 27*th* of last month, together with one from the esteemed president of the Elders' Conference of the Unity. When I learnt from the contents of the letter, that the

venerable fathers of our Church had appointed me to succeed Brother Hallbeck in the general superintendence of this mission, my eyes filled with tears, and I could not help asking my Lord, why He had seen fit to lay this burden upon me. I felt, that unless He gave me grace to look away from myself, and to fix the eyes of my faith simply and entirely upon Him,—I *should* sink down in utter discouragement: at the same time the remembrance of his goodness and help, experienced in seasons past, revived my fainting spirit, and I was enabled to cast my care upon Him, and to stay myself upon his promises. That our Saviour has, and will keep the government in his own hands, also in this province of his spiritual kingdom, is a truth, of which I am fully convinced, and often, of late, has a remark made by our lamented Brother Hallbeck, not long before his decease, been impressed upon my mind, that our blessed Master would even now show, what, indeed, from the commencement of this mission, He had made apparent, how little depended upon the servants whom He deigned to employ, since He was able to work even with the most imperfect instruments. It shall, therefore, be my constant desire and endeavor, not to stand in his way. Though I am not personally acquainted with our dear Brother Rudolph Kölbing, who is to be associated with me in the superintendence of this work of God, I am quite prepared to receive him, as one appointed to this service by the Lord himself, and I doubt not, we shall live and labor together in the spirit of brotherly unity.

"Let me now briefly notice the contents of your letters. I cannot wonder at the grief you express, at the removal of so old and valued a friend, and so esteemed a fellow-servant as our dear Brother Hallbeck. O how wonderful and mysterious are the ways of the Lord! How little did we anticipate a year ago, that He would see fit, to translate into his kingdom above, two overseers in his house, like our dear Brethren Hallbeck and Kölbing, who were still in their full career of usefulness, and whose presence and service seemed needful for the carrying on of his work in his kingdom of grace below. Truly our Lord 'giveth not account of any of his matters,' not even to his most favored servants.

"You inquire what arrangements have been made for the supply of my place at Groenekloof. To this I must answer;—none at all, as yet, for reasons which you can easily divine. Meanwhile, our brethren there are proceeding in their labors, with manifold tokens of the Divine favor and blessing.

"At Hemel-en-Aarde, Brother Fritsch continues lively and active, but his poor wife remains in a very suffering state, and confined for the most part to her bed. Her sight and her intellect are unclouded, but her bodily strength is almost exhausted. The least motion produces palpitation of the heart, so that she longs earnestly for the hour of her release from suffering and infirmity.

"From Elim and Clarkson, the accounts received are very encouraging; the work of the Lord appears truly to prosper, in the hands of our brethren.

"At Enon and Shiloh, changes are in progress. Brother Hoff-

man's departure was daily expected, his weakness being great, and the cough and expectoration continually increasing. Brother and Sister Stoltz have in consequence received a call to their former post at Enon, where help is greatly needed. Their place at Shiloh is to be supplied by Brother and Sister Kschischang.

"About the middle of July, my wife and myself conversed individually with the classes of new people, candidates for baptism, and children; and at our subsequent mission-conference, 23 persons were in consequence approved as candidates for baptism, 9 for the reception of that rite, and 4 for reception into the congregation. This week we spoke with the classes of baptized, and candidates for the Holy Communion; and 28 of the former have been since admitted into the class of the latter, and 9 candidates have been appointed for confirmation. The number that attended on these occasions was comparatively small, owing to many of our people being engaged in the service of the neighboring farmers; this being the season for ploughing and sowing. It afforded us, nevertheless, much encouragement.

"The occupant of a large farm, 27 hours' distance from this place, has invited us to hold Divine service in his house; and to-morrow I purpose making a commencement. A former proprietor, to whom Brother Hallbeck made application for a similar purpose, returned a direct refusal. We are truly thankful to find that the present is of a different way of thinking."

"*July* 18*th*. Since I began this letter, intelligence has reached us from Enon, that Brother Hoffman has been released from suffering, and permitted to enter into the joy of his Lord. Brother Stoltz has cheerfully accepted his call, and purposes shortly to set out for Enon. Brother and Sister Bonatz are well. I have just returned from the farm above referred to. Mr. Vos, the proprietor, had assembled a goodly company, to whom I declared, with much freedom of spirit, the precious truth, that alone in the crucified Saviour, salvation is to be found for sinners. The miraculous draught of fishes furnished me with a subject for my discourse. Like Peter I cast forth the net, with what success is known only to Him who knoweth all things."

FROM BROTHER J. LEMMERTZ.

"*Enon, May* 10*th*, 1841.

"Dear Brother,—I am thankful to inform you that the small-pox, which was raging here at the date of my last, has nearly disappeared from this place. Twenty persons, chiefly young people and children, have been carried off by it, and many others suffered severely from its effects. On the 2d instant, we celebrated a solemn day of thanksgiving to the Lord, for mercifully delivering us from this scourge; humbly confessing our sins before Him, and renewing our vows, to order our lives more faithfully according to His Word. Owing to this severe visitation, and the continuance of the drought, which prevents our river from flowing, much distress still prevails among the inhabitants of our place, far more than it is in our power effectually to relieve. The majority of our congrega-

tion can no longer find employment in the immediate neighborhood of the settlement, but are compelled to remove to a considerable distance; a great loss both to themselves and their families.

"The work of the Lord meanwhile proceeds in the midst of temporal difficulties and privations. The services in the Passion-week were very well attended, and we had the pleasure to add several to the different classes of our congregation.

"On the 10*th* of *February*, Brother Hoffman experienced a renewed attack of his alarming disorder, in consequence of which he removed to Uitenhage for change of air, and more effectual medical treatment. The effects of this change were by no means what we had hoped; for, when the patient eventually returned to us, it appeared that his complaint had assumed the character of a rapid consumption.

"Within the last few days, some of our people had the good fortune, to kill two tigers that had found their way to this place, and committed much depredation among the flocks. Not long since, a lion and two lionesses, with four young ones, were seen, at no great distance from the settlement. The boldness of these creatures seems to increase with the distress of the dwellers in these parts, and the temporary decrease of the population."

"*July* 4*th*. My letter having been detained, I can now inform you that our dear Brother Hoffman has been released from all infirmity and suffering, and translated into that rest for which he has long been sighing. On the 1st of June, he seemed so feeble, that he received the blessing of the Church for his departure, at his own request; but the Lord's time was not yet come; he had still to wait three weeks for the hour of his happy release. The eye of his faith was meanwhile directed to his Lord and Saviour, on whose blood and righteousness he placed his only trust. Our late brother was in his 58th year, and he had been engaged for 23 years and a half in the service of the Cape mission."

FROM BROTHER J. LEHMAN.

"*Groenekloof*, *July* 20*th*, 1841.

"Dear Brother,—Our congregation is proceeding in its usual course. The services at chapel are well attended, and the majority of hearers, we trust, feel real hunger after the word of life. Since new year, 81 persons have obtained leave to become inhabitants of the settlement, and the number of applicants for this privilege does not seem to decrease. The late individual speaking, in which my wife and myself were engaged, was a real refreshment to our souls. Many of those with whom we conversed, declared that they had been led to us by a secret and irresistible impulse, the nature of which they could hardly explain; and that, though at first they could comprehend but little of what they heard at church, they now began to understand and to relish it, and could not feel sufficiently thankful to the Lord for the grace conferred upon them. Often it was, as though they could anticipate the very words the minister was going to speak, so clearly was the subject of the discourse explain-

ed to them by the Spirit of God. At the subsequent mission-conference, we had the pleasure to appoint no fewer than 70 persons, for an advance in the privileges of the Church, of whom 19 shortly after received the rite of holy baptism. My dear wife suffers much from infirm health, and has been troubled for several weeks with a very trying cough. The weather has been of late very favorable for husbandry; the crops look well, and of grass there is great abundance. The Lord be praised for these his undeserved mercies!"

[From the "Periodical Accounts," &c.]

III. GREENLAND.

The interest of our Brethren and Christian friends in the well-being of the mission in Greenland, and their sympathy in the necessities and privations which are inseparable from its progress, have been so kindly and so generously manifested, especially during the past year, that it seems hardly requisite to direct attention to it by any introductory remarks. The letters subjoined will speak for themselves, and supply the desired information, on most of the subjects that occur, within the limited range of Greenland correspondence. It will be observed, that the year under review proved one of abundant temporal mercies. The Greenlanders enjoyed, with few exceptions, the best state of health, and food was more plentiful than it had been known to be, within the memory of the oldest inhabitant. Fatal accidents had not, however, been wanting; at New-Herrnhut, five destitute families of widows and orphans, and at Lichtenau four, had to mourn over the loss of their natural guardians and providers, who had perished in the attempt, to procure the needful assistance for those dearest to them. It is under the pressure of distress occasioned by such afflictive visitations, that the bounty of their Christian benefactors in Europe is most deeply felt, and the warmest expressions of gratitude of the sufferers, their countrymen, and the missionaries called forth. Of the spiritual state of the Greenland congregation, the report is, on the whole, very gratifying. Lichtenau presents the only exception to this cheering statement. In this numerous and dispersed congregation, various trying occurrences have taken place, which have led to the exclusion of several of its members. The poor people living at the out-places, have also shewn a degree of indifference to the means of grace, when brought within their reach, which caused the missionaries much pain. At New-Herrnhut, Lichtenfels, and Fredericksthal, the work of the Lord appears to have been prospering in the hands of his servants. At the last-mentioned settlement, the appointment of several well-qualified and devoted national assistants had been productive of much blessing.

The arrangements made for the supply of detached school-rooms, and the improvement of the schools, will be noticed with satisfaction by the friends of Christian education.

FROM BROTHER C. A. ULBRICHT.

"*New-Herrnhut, July 29th*, 1841.

"DEAR BROTHER,—I would gladly write you a long letter, but this year, the hindrances in the way of correspondence have been unusually great. Among these, I may mention, the arrival of the ship, on the 17th of June; the press of occupation of every kind in which we were involved; the difficulty we experienced in transacting the business connected with her annual visit, and which included the answering of numerous letters, and the stowing away of our year's provision; and, lastly, the necessity which existed, immediately after the landing of Brother and Sister Herbrich, of hastening to the Fiorde, and gathering our supply of brush-wood, before the atmosphere became peopled by myriads of musquitoes.

"On the 18*th* instant, I returned with the Brethren Herbrich, Richter and Lund, from this toilsome expedition, after an absence of sixteen days; and ever since, we have been all as busy, as other engagements permitted, in writing letters to go by the vessel. You may easily believe, that, for some time after our return, our hands, which had become heavy and stiff with hard labor, and our eyes and faces, which were all the worse for the stings of musquitoes, were not in the best order for correspondence.

"I am truly thankful to be able to inform you, that the Lord has been pleased to relieve my dear wife from the painful affection of the eyes, which, for nearly two years, caused her so much suffering; and that she is now able to take her full share in the service of the mission. Our three children are likewise, through his mercy, enjoying good health; last autumn, indeed, our dear little girl, now twenty months old, was brought very near the gates of death, but she has since completely recovered. About the same time, when our whole congregation were assembled around us, the Lord was pleased to visit me with a severe affection of the chest, and with so troublesome a cough, that I found myself incapable of performing any ministerial duty. During the preceding summer, while the temporal concerns of the mission had to be attended to, I was well, and able to work; but when the time arrived for more abundant spiritual labor, I was laid by. This was a severe trial of my faith and submission; and the thought at times took possession of my mind, that my gracious Master had decreed the speedy close of my service in this rugged quarter of his vineyard. But He had other thoughts concerning his unworthy servant. My cough gradually left me, I recovered my strength, and passed a very busy, cheerful winter with my dear brethren and our Greenland flock. Their enjoyment of this season was, probably, the greater, inasmuch as it proved a very favorable one for our people generally. They obtained an ample supply of provisions for their families, and were thus enabled to keep near home; one consequence of which was, the numerous attendance of themselves at church, and of their children at school. Nor were we without manifold and cheering proofs that the Word of God does not return to Him void, but accomplishes that which He pleases and prospers in the thing whereto He sends it. The enemy, it is true, failed not to perform his part,

in the sowing of tares, where good seed had already been scattered; but of this device of his, our Master has forewarned us, and his cautionary directions to let both grow together till the harvest, has often restrained us from being over hasty in attempting to make the desired separation. What our Lord chiefly requires of his weak, but devoted servants, is, that they should watch and pray, exhort and warn, with all faithfulness, tenderness, and diligence. May He give us grace thus to serve Him!

"Since the date of my last, some painful occurrences have taken place at this station. No fewer than five valued members of our congregation, viz., four young men, and a widower brother, who had a family of four little children, perished at sea, by the upsetting of their kayaks. They were all, to the best of our knowledge, in a very pleasing state of heart, and we could not but mourn over their early removal. Our tears flowed freely with those of the afflicted widows, and our hearts were filled with sympathy for the children thus bereft of their earthly providers. Our dear and generous friends, in England and St. Petersburg, may easily conceive our emotions of pleasure and thankfulness when we saw ourselves enabled, by their bounty, to relieve the pressing necessities of these poor sufferers, in whose name, and in that of Him who is the Father of the fatherless, and the Husband of the widow, we would return our most cordial thanks to these generous benefactors.

"Of our visit to the *Fiorde* (the frith or bay) of Amitsuarsuk, I would gladly give you some particulars, but I fear to encroach too seriously, both on your patience and my own leisure. I must confine myself to a very brief outline. A suitable spot having been selected for our head-quarters, our female rowers drew our boat on shore, and having turned it keel upwards, were at once provided with a habitation. On both sides of our tent, and on the high ground above it, were scattered alder and willow-bushes, the uprooting of which often required the exertion of all our bodily strength, and through the midst of which the clearest rills of water forced their passage to the sea. Our laborious occupation, as well as our seasons of grateful rest at night, were beguiled by pleasant mutual converse, and narrations derived from our several stores of personl experience and adventure. The recent visit of our dear Brother Herbrich in Sweden, Denmark, and Germany, supplied ample matter for edifying and instructive conversation. About five minutes' walk from our tent, a large salmon stream discharged its waters into the head of the bay, and near its banks appeared the ruins of some Norwegian habitations, nearly level with the ground, and of no great extent. Often, with feelings of a peculiar kind, did we muse and converse together on the subject of the former occupants of these poor dwellings, who doubtless were Christians by profession, like ourselves; often did the inquiry suggest itself, what was their manner of life—how and when they disappeared, and became utterly extinct. It was scarcely possible, at times, to repress the mournful thought, that they may have forgotten and forsaken the Lord, whose name they bore, and He may, therefore, have permitted them to be gradually, or even suddenly, swept away.

How powerfully does every such visitation of his providence speak to us in the warning voice of revelation—'Be not high-minded, but fear!'

"The quantity of brushwood which we obtained, together with the supply of coals with which the benevolence of our friends in Europe provided us, secures us against any want of fuel during the progress of the ensuing winter. May the Lord richly reward all who have been thus kindly mindful of our necessities!"

FROM BROTHER F. D. TIETZEN.

"*Lichtenfels, July 15th*, 1841.

"Dear Brother,—I am thankful to be able to inform you, that the past year has been one marked by many mercies, received at the hand of our gracious Lord and Saviour. My own family has been favored to enjoy a large measure of health; and the safe delivery of my dear wife, of an infant son, on the 20th of last month, together with the well-doing since that date of both mother and child, seems to have made my cup overflow with blessings. May we shew ourselves duly grateful for them!

"Our Greenland flock has been also graciously remembered by that bountiful Lord, who provides for the wants, both spiritual and temporal, of all his people. We can say with truth, that the church here has had rest and been edified, and has walked in the fear of the Lord, and the comforts of the Holy Ghost. Nor have we been without instances of the patience and faithfulness, wherewith the Good Shepherd follows his wandering sheep, and brings them back to the fold, having rescued them out of the hands of the destroyer. Several, who, for a long season, had appeared to be altogether deaf to the message of his love, have of late come to us, with the earnest inquiry, 'What must I do to be saved?' and to these we have declared, and not in vain, the will of God concerning man's salvation.

"For the generous provision made by our Christian friends in Great Britain and elsewhere for the supply of our peculiar necessities, we are deeply indebted to them. Though it will be our desire to make such arrangements for the warming of our school-room, as may be consistent with the strictest economy, the expense which will have to be incurred every winter will not be trifling, and we are therefore peculiarly thankful for the special donation towards this object. As we had no apartment in our dwelling-house, which could be spared for a school-room, we contrived last summer to fit up a small temporary building for that purpose:—it is, to be sure, a poor affair, constructed after the Greenland fashion, of rough stones and sods, a few windows in the side walls, and before the door a kind of vestibule, to prevent the entrance being filled up by the driven snow. The inner walls are lined with sods, which serve to keep the sharp wind from penetrating them. In the middle of the apartment is a table, consisting of a flat stone resting on four posts; and around are the requisite number of benches for the scholars. A small iron stove occupies one corner, which, when lighted, throws out sufficient warmth to make the place just tenantable. You will readily believe, that this structure has not cost any

great sum of money; I believe, after all has been brought to account, not more than eleven dollars. I am sure many a friend of the Redeemer would willingly have defrayed the whole charge, to have enjoyed the pleasure of the children, of which we were eye-witnesses, when they were first introduced into this new building, and to have observed how much more diligently they frequented the school throughout the winter. Next summer, we hope to be able to erect a more durable school-house, with timber which we expect from Copenhagen, but till then we must be content to make use of the present one. Brother Hasting, who understands carpentry, is coming hither from New-Herrnhut, for the purpose of superintending the work.

"The summer last year was very wet, so that our garden products did not thrive as we could have wished. We had, however, plenty of cabbages and turnips for winter use. The winter proved mild, greatly to the joy of all the old people, who were thus able to attend the service at church, without much difficulty. The declarations of many of them on this head were both affecting and cheering."

FROM BROTHER VALENTINE MÜLLER.

"*Fredericksthal, June 17th,* 1841.

"DEAR BROTHER,—I thank you sincerely in the name of my brethren, and our Greenland flocks, for your endeavors to forward the publication of the Greenland version of the 'Scripture Narratives;' at the same time we beg you to present our most grateful acknowledgments to the Committee of the Religious Tract Society for the assistance they have so generously afforded, towards the expense of printing this work, which will be a real treasure to our Greenlanders, whenever it reaches their hands. Not only will they have an opportunity, of becoming acquainted with many interesting passages in the history of the ancient people of God, but also of deriving doctrinal instruction from the remarks which follow, in the way of explanation and application. The poor people among whom we are called to labor, are naturally very dull of intellect to comprehend, and very slow of heart to believe and apply spiritual truth; they need precept upon precept, and line upon line, to make them ordinarily understand that what they read has really a reference to themselves, and their own necessities.

"I take the liberty of sending you herewith a translation of the Book of Psalms into the Greenlandish language, upon which I have been employed for the past two years, with the request that you would have the goodness to lay it before the Committee of the venerable British and Foreign Bible Society, and to solicit on behalf of your brethren and their several flocks in this country, the aid which they are at all times so ready to give, towards the printing of the Word of God in a foreign tongue. We ask this favor at their hands with the more confidence, because we cannot forget the inestimable service which they rendered us and our Greenland converts, nearly twenty years ago, by undertaking the publication of the whole of the New Testament for their use,—a work which continues to be a means of much spiritual blessing and instruction

to them, and to be in frequent request with their countrymen attached to the Danish mission.

"The version of the Psalms which I am recommending to their kind attention, is based on that of Luther, though the original text has been carefully consulted; and while the most anxious desire has been felt to give the meaning of the inspired authors as faithfully and literally as possible, the needful regard has been paid to the peculiar idioms of the Greenland language.

"I can assure you that we have all heard with astonishment as well as gratitude, of the efforts which have been made last winter, by our friends in the British Islands, for the relief of the necessities of the poor and destitute in our congregations, and the supply of our need in the article of fuel. What return can we make for so great and so disinterested a kindness, except by offering up our supplications with increased fervency at the Throne of Grace, that the Lord himself would abundantly bless and reward all our dear benefactors? To our valued female friends in Edinburgh, who continue from year to year to send us tokens of their Christian remembrance, we are also deeply indebted.

"In your remarks on the importance of school-instruction for our young people I fully concur, and shall do all in my power to promote the attainment of this interesting object. Last winter I assisted my dear wife in giving lessons both in writing and geography to all who were desirous to profit by them, and it was really cheering to observe the eagerness, with which many attended on these occasions, and even followed up the instruction given them by coming to me in my private room for explanation of such points as they had but imperfectly understood. Maps seemed to have peculiar attractions for them.

"This is probably the last letter you will receive from me before I take my leave of Fredericksthal, as I have received an appointment to Lichtenau, to supply the place of Brother Kogel, who is gone on a visit to Europe. Though seven years older than I was, when I last had the favor to serve the numerous congregation at that place, and weaker as to health and bodily power, I shall go in the strength of the Lord, and trust his goodness and his grace, for the supply of those gifts which I may need in the execution of his work.

"Remember my dear wife and myself, I beseech you, at the Throne of Grace."

[From the "Periodical Accounts," &c.]

IV. WEST INDIES.

The intelligence lately received from the British West Indies is of a rather painful nature. In almost every island, sickness has been permitted to waste the strength and impair the activity of the Lord's servants, and in two instances it has been "unto death." The departure of Sister Kiergaard, which took place at New Eden, in

Jamaica, in the month of July, has been followed by the translation of Brother Straubel, of New-Hope, in the same island, from the earthly service in which his soul delighted, to the heavenly rest for which he was manifestly prepared. By these severe and unexpected bereavements, and the withdrawal from their fellowship of Brother J. Coleman, our brethren in Jamaica have been brought into great embarrassment, and compelled to leave for a time unsupplied with a resident missionary, not only the newly-formed station of Bethabara, but even the older one of New-Hope, near Parker's Bay. Nor have discouraging circumstances, connected with the progress of their spiritual labors, been altogether wanting, as Brother Zorn candidly states, in the last letter received from his hand. On the whole, it may however be said with truth, that the work of the Lord, committed to the Brethren's Church, in this wide, and now well-occupied and cultivated field, is advancing, and that he continues to shew his servants many a token for good. The accounts from Antigua and Barbadoes are peculiarly pleasing; nor are those from Jamaica and St. Kitts, generally, of a contrary complexion. Many of the details communicated, will doubtless be read with interest and satisfaction.

That the needful pecuniary means are still wanting, for the completion of the church at Basseterre, in St. Kitts, and the chapel-school at Indian-Walk, in Tobago,—for the erection of a church at New-Eden, of another at Bethel, in St. Kitts, and a dwelling for the missionary at Gracefield, near Wilcox Bay, in Antigua, is greatly to be regretted. Till the West-India funds are, in some measure, relieved from the heavy debt by which they have been so long encumbered, there is, of course, no prospect of these latter objects being attained, however desirable; none, at all events, unless extraordinary assistance should be afforded in the colonies.

Of the distressing embarrassments of our mission-fund, in all its branches, the circular and statements for the year 1840, appended to this number, present so clear a view, that it seems hardly necessary, to do more than direct the kind attention of our brethren and friends to these documents. May the Lord incline the hearts of such of his servants, as have it in their power to help in an emergency like the present, to come forward and cast their gifts into his treasury!

1. JAMAICA.

FROM BROTHER JACOB ZORN.

"*New Hope, August 17–24th*, 1841.

"Dear Brother,—The proposal of our brethren of the Basel Missionary Society, that a few Christian families from these islands should accompany their missionaries to Western Africa, received due consideration in our conference on July 27th. The brethren promised to mention it to their congregations, and to let me know the result. This I am still awaiting, before I address Brother Harvey on the subject. One hopeful young brother of the New Carmel congregation, and two families from Irwin-Hill, have already offered to go, if required. It would be the joy and rejoicing of our heart, if some were thus to be made useful to benighted Africa! O, that

the Lord's set time were come, to favor this dark race; dark in complexion, and darker still in mind! We find that the people in this neighborhood know very little of missionary efforts; such things are quite new to them.

"Your intelligence on the subject of our missionary finances disquiets me. May our gracious God, whose work, I trust, we are doing, be pleased to supply the necessary means! If we are but once out of our present embarrassments, I think that, excepting in the event of some unforeseen calamity or pressure, we shall be able to proceed with the more ordinary contributions. In Jamaica, our stations will not call upon you heavily, in future, for *building expenses*. And if the current expenses be £2000 sterling a year, we shall, I hope, continue to raise at least the half of this amount. If the other islands contribute in the same proportion, I think we might say, that more than half of what is now expended for this somewhat costly branch of the Brethren's Missions, would be sufficient for their support. By degrees even this amount should be reduced."

"*September* 16*th*, 1841. Our exile here will soon terminate: next week (Wednesday, 22*d*) our mission-conference will be held, and Brother and Sister Straubel will afterwards be stationed here for four or five weeks. This temporary arrangement is the only way in which we can serve this congregation. Last week I had intelligence from our dear Brother Van Vleck, in Salem, North-Carolina, that a young Brother, Francis B. Holland, of that congregation, has accepted a call as teacher. We are looking out for him every week. He will, I trust, prove a valuable auxiliary.

"What think you of the enclosed to the Rev. Mr. Trew, relative to the transfer to us of the school and school-house, at Chantilly, belonging to the Mico Charity.* The building is far advanced, and would not take a great sum to complete it, say £50 sterling. Mr. and Mrs. S., I know, are anxious to have it under our jurisdiction. It is nearly midway between New Carmel and Beaufort. If we can obtain a gift of it, I should hope there would be no objection to our occupying this additional school-station.

"Brother Buchner is very slowly regaining health and strength: his nervous system has received a severe blow, and he is not yet able to do duty. He feels this much, as a clog to his activity. In Manchester, we have had the aid of our esteemed friend, J. R. Tomlinson, Esq., one of the local Committee of the Church Missionary Society, and without it we could not have got on. As on many former occasions, he kindly officiates in our chapel, by reading a sermon, addressing the children, and making himself generally useful. We are truly thankful to him, and to the Lord, for having provided this valuable aid."

"*Fairfield, October 8th.*

"In expectation of the coming packet, when I may, perhaps, have but little time to devote to correspondence, I sit down to address you, but with a heavy heart. For several months we have been

* The application in question has been made, and kindly and cordially acceded to by the Trustees of the Mico Charity.—*Ed. Periodical Accounts.*

looking up to the Lord of the harvest, for more laborers; and he has been putting our faith and patience to a further trial. He has seen fit, in his inscrutable wisdom, to weaken our hands, and to diminish our force still more, by calling to himself, and into eternal blessedness, our dear Brother Straubel! Is the Lord dealing with us, his soldiers, as with Gideon's army, reducing our numbers, that we may depend more on Him, the Lord of Hosts? Truly, 'his thoughts are not as our thoughts;' but 'shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?' We lay our hands on our mouths. And as for his great and blessed cause, it rests not on our feeble arms; he will be able to carry it forward, in some way we do not as yet know.

"Our beloved Brother Straubel, was a truly devoted and indefatigable servant of Jesus. He had a portion of the spirit of his Divine Master, whose meat it was, to do the will of Him that sent Him. He was, indeed, instant in season and out of season. This 'willing mind' made him also a valuable colleague to me; and according to his strength, 'yea, beyond his strength,' did this 'true yoke-fellow labor with me in the gospel.' I fear, that during the two months of my absence at New-Hope, which, you know, was unavoidable, the heavy and harrassing service of a double congregation, with two chapels, added to his anxiety to fulfil the minutest duties, at a time when his affectionate spirit was deeply exercised by the dangerous illness of his infant son, undermined his health so much, that he had hardly been a week at New-Hope, where I had hoped comparatively light duty, with a pleasant situation and sea air would revive and strengthen him, when he was taken ill. He had the faithful medical attentions of your Brother, and the unwearied assistance of Brother Pfeiffer, who, from a long residence in the island, and much experience, is a valuable assistant to a doctor; but on the ninth day of a low typhus fever, he fell asleep in Jesus on October 5th, and was released from severe sufferings. Not having been present, I can give you no further particulars, but that poor Sister Straubel, who had just got up from a sick-bed herself, was so graciously supported, as to be able to nurse her affectionate husband to the last. She has been removed to New-Carmel, and may our gracious Saviour so uphold and support her, that she may feel, that she has still the arm of the best of friends to lean upon! It is hardly necessary to say, how urgently we require a further supply of laborers.

"Several of our number have been ill, and are barely on their feet again; what should we do if any others were laid aside? New-Hope must be deserted for the present; the brethren in the vicinity will do all they can for it, but they have their own laborious and fatiguing duties to attend to. I am here alone, anxiously looking out for the arrival of Brother Holland from America. And even if he come, and one or two missionaries also, I fear we shall have to reduce our Fairfield congregation by a most extraordinary, and I know not whether justifiable, procedure, that of putting out and refusing communion to several hundreds of our people, for the offence of living at a distance of 17 or 18 miles from this place, in the village of Porus. As Bethabara is about twelve miles from them, we

had proposed, you know, to build a chapel-school among them, at their most urgent and repeated request; but the connection, however much desired by them, becomes more and more difficult to us, and more and more imperfect. For their own best interests, I fear there may be no alternative, but we will not yet despair.

"Our faith and patience have been also severely tried here at Fairfield, within the twelve months past; the love of not a few has waxed cold, and iniquity has abounded. We have certainly not been without encouragement, but I know not whether, on the whole, our discouragements have not been greater. But, in the Lord's strength, 'we will endure unto the end;' 'we will watch unto prayer,' and perhaps the Lord may send us a time of refreshing from his presence. If he sees fit to sweep away some of the chaff, the residue will be so much the more good grain.

"Thanks for your favor of August 16th, and its various contents. I did hope more might have been obtained for Bethabara. It is, indeed, a sad matter, that our treasury is so completely exhausted. Others seem to feel the times also; the Mico establishments are all broken up, and the Church Missionary Society are withdrawing from this field on December 31st next. I fear our English friends have too glowing an idea of the wealth of our blacks; some are industrious and thriving, but many live from hand to mouth.

"Brother Heath has been attacked again by his old complaint; thank God, it was not severely, and he is now able to resume preaching. Brother Buchner is haunted by an obstinate intermittent, but attends to his duties. Brother Davies had a slight touch of fever, and myself also; Brother Kiergaard was also prevented one Sunday from officiating. It has been a very sickly time."

"*October 26th.* The packet has been so unusually late, that this letter has been lying on hand, as you perceive. Thanks to the Lord, I have no further painful intelligence to communicate. Poor Sister Straubel has not yet returned to us; the weather has been rainy, and the roads almost impassable, so that we have not been able to send for her to New-Carmel. There have been several more invalids among us; but I believe all are recovered, or in a a fair way.

"We are making application for a grant for the enlargement of New-Carmel, and the erection of Springfield chapel-school. What I have said about the school-house at Porus, must not deter you from applying for a grant from the parliamentary fund of next year. Should our plants come to nought, which I hope will not be the case, we can easily return the money. However great our difficulty, we can hardly give it up; more and more of our people settle in that vicinity."

FROM BROTHER GEORGE HEATH.

"*Nazareth, near Maidstone, April 29th*, 1841.

"Dear Brother,—Nearly a twelvemonth has elapsed, since my last letter to you was dispatched. You have, doubtless, heard of my long and severe illness. It was about the beginning of November, last year, when I was suddenly seized with a bilious fever. The doctor at first thought lightly of it. Frequent relapses about

Christmas greatly reduced me, and a severe cough now came on, which harrassed me excessively. It was recommended to me, to try what change of air would do, and I removed to New-Eden with my family, which proved very beneficial to me, my cough at once ceasing. It is astonishing how congenial the heat (Therm. at 80–90 in winter) was to my shattered constitution. We continued there for ten days, my health improving, and then removed for further change to New-Fulneck, Carmel, Beaufort, and finally Irwin-Hill.

"After a sojourn of six weeks at the latter place, where I was at one time considered in great danger, I was so far restored, as to be able to return to Nazareth. My reception at home was most gratifying to my feelings, and shewed the affection and regard which our flock cherish for those who minister to them.

"Our speaking with the baptized and communicants is just over, and yesterday, for the first time since our return, we celebrated the Lord's Supper. We enjoyed a peaceful, and, I trust, a blessed communion of love, in grateful remembrance of the exceeding mercy of our once crucified but now risen and exalted Lord.

"In the speaking with both classes, we had some pleasing proofs of the work of the Holy Spirit. A humiliating experience of the sinfulness of the human heart was a distinguishing feature in many of our brethren and sisters; we have only to desire that this may be accompanied by true repentance and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

"Our public services are well attended. We do not, however, make any great addition to our class of new people, nor can we expect so to do. Though the congregation of Nazareth has been newly settled, yet this part of Jamaica is no new district, but a long cultivated portion of the vineyard. Old Carmel, the Bogue, (New-Eden,) and Fairfield, are well known to most of our charge as their spiritual birth-places; and the names of Lang and Becker are familiar to many, as well as the more recent ones of Ellis, Ricksecker, &c. &c. Other men have labored, and we enter into their labors. Still it is not all *reaping;* there is plenty of pruning, weeding, and clearing of the soil.

"Our schools, which used to be large, have fallen off considerably of late in point of attendance. This is attributed to the unfavorable seasons, which have occasioned a great scarcity of provisions. When parents could not give their children the usual allowance, they were kept at home, to get a mouthful as it came, or to go and pick up what they could in their old grounds. The abundant and various fruits kept many from half-starving. The present season promises a better harvest. The coffee-trees have fine and beautiful blossom. Our new settlers here are proceeding as fast as they can, in building their houses and cultivating their new grounds. Matters go on with them, much more peaceably than I expected, considering their disposition to wrangling. Now and then a poor unfortunate will come up, big with anger at some neighbor's hog or cow having broken into his grounds and destroyed some, perhaps much, of his provision. Mighty damages will be charged, and big proceedings threatened, but the matter

is soon easily settled. They often render themselves liable to these trying accidents, by neglecting their fences. In reference to the school I should have observed, that many of the children are too naked to come, their parents being very poor. If the charitably disposed could procure for us some old canvas wrappers of bales, &c., it would be very acceptable. It makes the children stout and lasting frocks, and one such frock is sufficient covering. Pardon me this bit of begging, to which English ears are well accustomed."

FROM BROTHER H. J. KIERGAARD.

"*New-Eden, June 7th*, 1841.

"Dear Brother,—You will have heard of our call to quit Barbadoes, and enter upon the service of the mission in this island. We accepted it, in reliance upon the strength of the Lord, and took our departure from Barbadoes on the 5th of January. On the 13th we reached Kingston, and after three days' stay, proceeded to Alligator Pond, where we arrived in the evening of the 18th, and were obliged to take up our abode in a negro house. Next morning, horses were sent by Brother Prince, for our conveyance to Lititz. We rode through a luxuriant valley, between the St. Elizabeth and Manchester mountains, which were covered with thick forests, often most beautifully interwoven with cactuses of different kinds. At Lititz, we were most kindly received, and rested for two days, when we set out on horseback for Fairfield. We ascended, with slow paces, the Manchester mountains; having reached the summit of the ridge, our eyes feasted on the beautiful view which appeared in sight; declivities, shaded with rich foliage, afford the weary traveller a covering from the beams of a tropical sun, while rocky precipices, in every direction, often exhibiting very grotesque forms, give variety and interest to the landscape.

"At Fairfield, we met with a cordial welcome from the brethren and sisters, and our three weeks stay there, afforded us great pleasure. During the course of it, I had the favor to preach at New-Eden and Nazareth; at both places the chapels were crowded with attentive hearers. The conference held at New-Carmel on the 10th of February, agreed upon our being stationed at New-Eden, and we arrived here, on the 14th of the same month. The negroes gave us a hearty welcome, and we entered upon our labors, by speaking with our received members, and in the two following weeks, with the communicants and new people; of the latter, many came to have their names put down for the first time. Several who had been excluded from church-fellowship, came with their helpers, begging leave to come to speaking again. We were, in general, much pleased with their simple expressions; the more so, as we found not a few among them, who live so as to adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour. Since we came here, 120 persons have been added to the class of new people, and there is hope of a further increase. But, alas! our small chapel will not accommodate them; every Lord's day, a great number have to stand outside, and many stay at home, because they know they cannot obtain a seat. We

are, therefore, compelled to do something to meet this want, and having received a grant of £500 currency from the Assembly of the island, towards building a new church, our conference have authorized me to begin cutting stones for it. We intend to go on in a small way according to our means; trusting that the Lord will enable us to complete the work, and determining to use the strictest economy. The white lime was given by the estate's attorney, but there are many other repairs necessary about our house ; and the roof of our present chapel is so bad, that the rain pours in at several places.

"Our school is in a prosperous state, many of the children being able to read the Holy Scriptures. The master is a member of the Established Church ; a pious man, who takes much pains with the children. Our health seems to stand the climate very well so far ; though the heat is intense, the thermometer standing at 90 degrees in the house, and sometimes above. The duty on Sundays is the most oppressive, as our little low chapel is crowded almost to suffocation. I am very much pleased with my station, and we find ourselves quite at home here."

"*August 6th.* Since I wrote the above, my harp has been tuned to notes of mourning and lamentation. You will have heard of the grievous loss I have lately sustained, the Lord having been pleased to call home to himself my dear and valuable helpmate on the 3d July, by means of an attack of bilious fever. This severe visitation has changed my joy into deep sorrow, and my *Eden* has become to me a dreary *wilderness.* My domestic horizon is covered with thick darkness. After this event I was obliged to leave my post much reduced in spirit, and came to Fairfield. Sunday, July 10th, I preached at Nazareth, returning to Fairfield, where the Lord saw fit to lay me on a bed of sickness, with an attack of the same kind of fever, which had proved fatal to my dear wife. I was brought very near the gates of the grave ; but the Lord restored me after a fortnight's illness. It being impossible at present to supply New-Eden with a married missionary, I offered to resume my work there. My situation, my dear brother, is indeed a solitary one, and, being in the midst of an increasing congregation, the duties are more than I can well get through; but I am willing to spend my strength in that work, to which the Lord hath called me.

"To-day I am just returned from New-Bethlehem, where, as my health is not yet restored, I have been staying a few days, as the mountain air does me good. My health is daily improving. Join me in praying that it may be fully established, that I may accomplish the ministry which I have received of the Lord Jesus. May the God of all grace comfort our hearts, and teach us to rely on Him, at all times, and especially in seasons of affliction!"

FROM BROTHER JOHN HENRY BUCHNER.

"*Irwin-Hill, September 19th,* 1841.

"Dear Brother,—The 1st of August was this year celebrated by us with great liveliness and joy. This day, generally, is not looked upon by the negroes here with that interest which we should

expect. Last year, especially, I was much struck by the want of feeling exhibited by the people; comparatively few having attended the church, as it was on a week-day, and there was not one demonstration of pleasure or thankfulness. This year, a numerous congregation assembled, so that even our enlarged church could not hold all that came. Though I felt very ill, I could not prevail upon myself to send them away, I therefore preached as well as I could. After this we had a general love-feast, in which I had the pleasure to communicate to them the proposal of our dear brethren of the Missionary Society at Basel, that, for the sake of the Lord, and their brethren in Guinea, one or other of their number should accompany the missionaries whom that Society is purposing to send out, for the renewal of the mission on the Gold Coast. I had afterwards the pleasure to see two brethren, whom I think in every respect well qualified, come forward to express their willingness, to devote life and labor to this great object. Thus we may hope, that the services of the day, and the comparison of their happy state with the wretched condition of the people in Guinea, tended to impress them with feelings of gratitude to God, and love and sympathy for their brethren."

2. ST. KITTS.

FROM BROTHER P. RICKSECKER.

"*Basseterre, July 27th*, 1841.

"DEAR BROTHER,—On the 5th of June, our dear Brother and Sister Breutel arrived here and left us on the 22d for Antigua; their visit, though too short, was nevertheless both instructive and pleasing. Since their departure, we have held, according to Brother Breutel's suggestion, a separate meeting with the members of our flock who are excluded, or otherwise under church-discipline, at which 242 were present. Many of them have been separated from us for a number of years. Some of them afterwards expressed their wish to come again to the periodical speaking, which we hold with all classes of our congregation.

"On *June 20th*, we celebrated the memorial-day of the single women and girls; 195 were present, and the meetings were graciously blessed by our Lord. Brother and Sister Breutel were with us at the time.

"By a letter from Brother Reinke, president of the Female Missionary Society, at Nazareth, Pennsylvania, I am informed that the said Society has voted this year another sum of $50, or £10. 8*s*. 4*d*. sterling for the St. Kitts' Mission. This is particularly for the relief of our poor people and children."

"*Aug. 27th*. Encouraged by some respectable inhabitants of this island, we sent a petition to our Houses of Legislature for pecuniary assistance in the erection of our chapel and school-house in this town. Mr. Woodcock, a leading member in the House of Assembly, cheerfully undertook to present our petition, and to give it his support. The result was a grant to us of £50 sterling, for which we are thankful, though we regret the opposition it seemed to encounter.

"We have ventured to form another plan, in the hope of obtaining something from the good-will and liberality of the public, by means of a Bazaar. Perhaps we may receive some contributions from our congregations and friends in England. The building of our church advances but slowly, owing to the many difficulties we have to struggle with in these half-civilized countries.

"As drunkenness is a prevailing vice in the island, and is often the cause of want, as well as of quarrels and fighting, we have lately established a Temperance Society among our people. Though the society is yet in its infancy, it has already produced some good, and we trust it will become a means of general benefit to our people. Above 100 of them have signed the pledge.

"At our last prayer-day we added ten to the class of candidates, and re-admitted two, but had to exclude six, which proves, that though there are such as wish to be the Lord's, and therefore value the privileges of his Church, we are not without others who are careless; and that the enemy is very active in the heart of the Church, alluring and deceiving the unstable. This causes us to mourn; yet we are not without decided tokens, of the powerful effect of the doctrine of the Cross upon the hearts and lives of the worst of sinners.

"In my late visits, entering a miserable cottage, void of all comforts, its inmate, an old communicant brother, who is unable to move about, exclaimed, 'O Massa, Christ is my all, and my comfort!' On questioning him, what he knew of Christ, he replied, 'He died for me, to save my soul; I look to him day and night,' &c. Among our new people, was a person who fell into a deep decline, and by this visitation, was awakened to a sense of her great sinfulness. She frequently, with many tears, confessed, that she had been a very careless, wicked sinner, much addicted to cursing and swearing, and now felt the wrath of God, and eternal punishment as unavoidable. Calling to see her, we found her bewailing her sins, yet without receiving pardon, for which she was so earnestly praying. In the latter weeks of her life, she expressed herself as having a glimpse of hope, that her Saviour would have compassion on her, but added, 'I have not yet that full assurance, which I seek and pray for.' The day previous to her death, she told my nephew, that she was now ready to depart, but wished and begged for the Holy Communion. Towards evening, I went to see her, with the intention to dissuade her from the thoughts of the Holy Communion, as she never was a communicant; and to urge that faith in Christ was the only way to salvation, &c. I found her very weak in body, and hardly able to speak. With some difficulty she said, 'I have peace, and am now ready to leave this world, and go to my Saviour.' I prayed, and sung some verses with her, whilst a number of old and young assembled. Concerning the Holy Communion she said, 'I know, it cannot fit me better for death, my Saviour will receive me without it, yet I feel a strong desire for it, before I die.' Struck with her faith, and by the overpowering feeling of the presence, and the peace of the Lord, around the bed of this dying believer, I promised that should she live to the next morning, and still feel that

desire for it, I would administer it to her. She seemed to rejoice at this. The next morning she sent for me, and I gave her this Sacrament, under a blessed feeling of the presence of the Saviour. She was able to sit up in her bed, without any help, but after the service, she sunk back on her pillow, much exhausted, expressed her thanks, adding, 'In heaven we shall meet again.' In an hour or two she breathed her last. O how wonderful is the love of God, and the mercy of a compassionate Saviour to repentant sinners, who, in truth, seek pardon and forgiveness with Jesus!

"On the 24*th* of *July*, Dennis Daily returned from Antigua, where he has been for six months under the tuition of Mr. Millar, in the Mico school. Our brethren there, give him the best testimonials, particularly on account of his religious principles. He has been an assistant in our school, ever since the close of 1838, when we began to train him for a teacher. At that time, he could scarcely read, and now he is teacher in the boys' school under my nephew, while the latter gives private instruction to the monitors."

3. ANTIGUA.

FROM BROTHER BENNET HARVEY.

"*St. John's, July 27th*, 1841.

"Dear Brother,—I am happy to inform you of the safe arrival here of Brother and Sister Nedwill, on the 11th instant. They will remain with us, and I need not say, we shall be very glad of their assistance on various accounts.

"Your kind letter of *May 31st*, with the accompanying circular, relative to the application of our esteemed friends of the Basel Missionary Society, has duly come to hand. The latter has been maturely considered in our mission-conference, and we hope, that the answer herewith returned, will prove satisfactory to yourselves and to our brethren at Basel. We are disposed to do all that we can, to forward their truly Christian and benevolent design, consistently with the duty we owe to the work committed to our Church in this island, and to the well-being of the colony, whose best interests we are always desirous to promote, as far as our efforts or influence can be made to extend; nor do we apprehend any injury to either, from compliance with the request of our esteemed fellow-servants."

"*September 29th*, 1841.

"It is encouraging to perceive, that notwithstanding numbers of our people have been drained away from St. John's to Lebanon, Gracefield, and Five Islands, the regular attendance at our Church here, continues to be as numerous as ever. It is, indeed, full, to overflowing: even the attendance at the Holy Communion is so great, that an idea I have sometimes entertained, of the three divisions of the congregation being reduced to *two*, must be abandoned. I question, whether the number of regular communicants is any less than formerly; and it remains a laborious duty to speak with them, and administer the Sacrament to them, even in three divisions. This very week, and whilst engaged in writing to you, I have to examine 39 persons, who have attended the instructions

for the Communion, and are appointed for confirmation on Sunday next.

"In the year 1837, the number of communicants, at St. John's, on our books, was 2233; at the close of last year, it was 1622; the latter being nearly equal to three-fourths of the number at the close of the first-mentioned year, when the congregation at Lebanon was not formed; and the attendance of our people both at the public services, and at the Holy Communion, has evidently improved since. By the withdrawal of so many to other places, the remaining members find the greater accommodation for themselves in our Church.

"By the arrival of Brother Nedwill, we have been enabled to provide for the entire service of the congregation at Gracefield, in Popeshead Division, by detaching Brother Baum from town for that service. And now that we have our full number of missionaries, for the service of the congregation at St. John's and Five Islands, we have at length been enabled to renew our preachings on the estates about the town, to the evident satisfaction of the people. Thus I preached yesterday evening (September 30th) at Friar's Hill, where a crowded auditory attended as usual, and I must observe, that however well the preachings on the estates are attended, the auditory at St. John's is as good as ever; so that we may fairly conclude that at our estate-services, not only nursing mothers, and the old and infirm, but also many besides, hear the gospel, who would not otherwise have been within the hearing of the joyful sound. In seven different places within four miles of the town, we have succeeded in establishing preaching stations; and I am further happy to say, that our brethren at the other settlements are also engaged in a similar manner, sounding forth the Word of the Lord, and going out into the high-ways and bye-places of the country, to bid the weak things of the world, and things that are despised, to the marriage-supper of the Lamb. To the poor, the gospel is preached; and we have encouragement to believe, that our labor is not in vain in the Lord. By a future opportunity, I hope to send you further tidings of this good work about the island generally, as the mission-conference has cheerfully engaged to carry it out wherever practicable and needful, and will report proceedings at our next meeting.

"In connection with recent events here, I have to state, that the Mico Charity has been obliged, by the prospective withdrawal of Government grants for education, to close most of their schools, excepting the Normal school, in this island; and consequently there has been a great desire shown by Churchmen, Methodists, and Moravians, to get the teachers thus disengaged. I am happy to say, that we have obtained our fair proportion, enabling us to fill up all our posts, and also to effect, what has long been resolved in our Helper's-conference, (according to the express injunctions of the doctor,) that Brother Heath should have an assistant in the school at St. John's. The attendance of scholars is very good, and the instruction becomes the more efficient from its increased advantages. It is a pleasure to me to visit it, and to take some part also in the

work; and I hope, ere long, to engage more than as yet I have been able to do in this important part of our labors, since the superintendence of the school has devolved upon me, by the removal of Brother Baum from town. Brother Heath loves his work, and the scholars love him, and it is cheering to see the cheerfulness of the children, both in their recreations and their duties in the school. The number in daily attendance is about 135, and a somewhat larger number on Sundays."

"*October 25th.*

"Since writing the above, we have had to get up a petition to the legislature, to obtain, if possible, the long desired measure of a marriage-bill. The Presbyterians, who are building a church here, and the Methodists, have done the same; and it will be strange, indeed, if such a general clamor at their doors shall still be unheeded by our Assembly and Council. Our petition (which I had to take round the island in a hurry) is signed by 13 missionaries, and 136 assistants, (men,) representing above 10,000 souls. The next meeting of the Assembly is expected to decide the question."

4. BARBADOES.

FROM BROTHER J. ELLIS.

"*Bridgetown, August 31st,* 1841.

"Dear Brother,—You will be glad to hear that we have so far effected the enlargement of our church at Sharon, that the new part as well as the old can be fully occupied at the Sabbath and evening-services. The weather has been, on the whole, favorable for the undertaking, although we are now in what is called the hurricane season. For the kind preservation vouchsafed to us by Him, without whose will, not a sparrow falls to the ground, we desire to be very thankful; as we also do that He has enabled us to raise a fund, which, we trust, will eventually be sufficient to liquidate the very considerable expense.

"That the seats are all filled, is another subject for thankfulness, although a considerable number have now joined the congregation at Clifton-Hill. The first Communion was celebrated at the latter place, on Sunday, the 29th instant, when 120 communicants were present. The other rites of the Christian Church will, in future, be solemnized there; so that we may now look upon it as a separate congregation, and in this view, we commend it to your prayers, and to those of all our brethren and friends.

"Our schools, at the several stations, continue to flourish, though, in some instances, we still find it difficult to obtain suitable teachers.

"Brother and Sister Kieldson, who lately arrived with us, are stationed at Sharon, and are endeavoring to make themselves useful in that place."

"*September 25th,* 1841.

"I have to-day to acknowledge a very considerable package of tracts and small books for our school, which we lately received. They were very welcome. Please convey our cordial thanks for this present to the Committee of the Religious Tract Society, and say, that they have been the means of lighting up many cheerful

countenances in the schools of our four settlements; for we allotted an equal share to each place. Such books are now very acceptable to our scholars, as a large proportion of them can read quite fluently; and as many of their parents and friends, who are themselves unable to read, delight to employ them in reading edifying books to them in the evenings. We are wont especially to recommend the sacred Scriptures for this purpose, but there are many of the poorer class who as yet do not possess a Bible.* One of our scholars in the Bridgetown day-school, is frequently employed by his aunt, an active helper-sister, in accompanying her on her visits to the sick and infirm, in order that he may give out hymns by their bed-sides, and assist in the singing of them. We hope and trust, that this has been made a blessing to some, by Him who can perfect praise, even out of the mouths of babes and sucklings.

"During the last few weeks, much sickness has prevailed in this neighborhood, and in the island generally. One of our communicant brethren, who retired to rest in perfect health, was found a corpse the next morning. He has left a widow and five children to mourn his loss. His widow, also a communicant, has indeed borne up under the unexpected bereavement with Christian fortitude. Her children can all read the Word of God to her; a consolation, of which many, alas, under similar circumstances, know nothing. In another family, the fond mother and faithful wife, was summoned, in an almost equally sudden manner. It was, indeed, most affecting to hear the husband exclaim, 'Poor Jane is most gone! What shall I do with the poor children! I should not mind so much for myself, as for them." We endeavored to comfort him, by directing him to the Friend of the afflicted, and that Friend has, we have reason to believe, heard and answered his cry, for his children seem already comfortably provided for. The aged helper-sister, Charlotte, has also been called to her eternal rest. Her love to her Saviour remained unabated to the end, as did also her attachment to the congregation. She became a member of our Church in the year 1791, and was then belonging to the Sharon congregation, among whom she labored faithfully for many years, in the capacity of national assistant. In the year 1835, when our new station in Bridgetown was commenced, she removed hither, since which time, she has done what she could, in gathering and nourishing the little flock in this place. She never seemed so happy as when on the mission-premises, or when she could find a fellow-sinner who would come with her to church, and hear the glad tidings of salvation. Several of our members look upon her as the instrument, in the Lord's hand, for bringing them to the congregation. She told us some time ago, that when she belonged to the little flock at Sharon, and when it consisted of but few members, she had prayed, that her Saviour might bring as many together in her day, as would fill the church, and this he had done. She said her prayer now was, that He would

* Our worthy friend, Edmund Haynes, Esq., has sent from England a present of Bibles for this mission, which have just come to hand. This will be equally opportune and acceptable with his former favors.

bring as many to the church in Bridgetown as would fill it, and that she might be permitted to see it. During her last sickness, when we spoke to her of the love of our Saviour, she would exclaim, 'O yes, my Saviour went to Calvary for *me*. What should I now do without Him? He is my All in All." The night previous to her departure, she took an affectionate leave of Sister Ellis, requesting her to tell me and the children, 'good-bye' for her. Her end was peace.

"Our mission-families have also suffered in consequence of the present sickly season. At Sharon I think every member of the family has been more or less indisposed; nor have we yet had the satisfaction to hear, that Brother and Sister Klose and Brother Kieldsen are quite recovered.

"In conversing with our married people, previous to their festival, which was kept last Sunday, we were encouraged anew to persevere in our labors, by finding that many had taken to heart and followed up the advice, which had been given to them at their last annual meeting. We had 76 couples present at the love-feast."

[From the "Periodical Accounts," &c.]

V. Brief survey of the missions of the brethren's church at the close of the year 1841.

The year 1841 has been, on many accounts, a remarkable one for our missionary work. Numerous and humbling as are the blemishes which shew themselves in its extending sphere, and perplexing as are the difficulties which not unfrequently arise, the manifold proofs afforded us of the Lord's favor, and of the blessing which He lays upon the imperfect labors of his servants, encourage us to go on, in the joyful confidence, that He, whose work it is, and who has helped us hitherto, will carry on his own gracious designs by means of our feeble instrumentality.

In our four stations in Greenland, the missionaries have in general been enabled to prosecute their labors with cheerfulness. It is true, the scattered state of the flock, during the summer months, withdraws them for a time from the means of grace, and exposes them to various temptations. And many are also obliged to spend the winter, at a distance from the settlements, our connection with them being alone maintained by mutual visits. Still the blessing laid upon the preached word continues to be strikingly manifest. The diligence of the children at school, is likewise a source of pleasure to the missionaries. In temporals, no want had been experienced by our Greenlanders, though several fathers of families, had lost their lives in the seal-hunt. On such melancholy occasions, our brethren were peculiarly grateful for the benefactions of many European friends, which enabled them to succor the families thus bereaved of their providers.

The London Society for the Furtherance of the Gospel among the Heathen, celebrated this year its Centenary Jubilee, with joy and gratitude to the Lord. The ship which forms our only com-

munication with this inhospitable coast, had a more stormy passage than usual, and did not reach London till the end of October. We were thus anew reminded of the preserving mercy of the Lord, by which alone this vessel, so indispensable to the existence of our settlements in that country, has regularly made the passage, since 1770, through those tempestuous and ice-bound seas. In Labrador, the season proved less favorable to the exertions of our people than in Greenland, and the want of necessary food was in some instances painfully felt. Yet, in these and other trials, the Lord's help was manifest. At Okkak, the mission-family, by no means numerous, were severely visited with sickness. At Nain, the influenza was for a long time prevalent, both among the missionaries and the Esquimaux, and the visits of traders to the neighborhood, were injurious to the spiritual course of the congregation. Hebron has of late years received but few additions from the heathen; but our brethren are exerting themselves, to make them acquainted with the gospel by more frequent visits. In all the settlements, the liberality of the British and Foreign Bible Society, in supplying them with New Testaments and other portions of the Holy Scriptures, and a gift of Hymn-books from the Society for the Furtherance of the Gospel, were thankfully acknowledged by our Esquimaux.

Our small congregations gathered from the Delaware Indians at New Fairfield, in Upper Canada, and Westfield, in the Missouri territory, enjoyed an undisturbed rest. At the former place, our brethren make visits from time to time amongst the surrounding Indian tribes, to carry to them the glad message of redemption through Christ, and invite them to pitch their tents in the neighborhood of the settlement.

The prospects of the Cherokee mission in the Arkansas have become more hopeful in the course of the year. Beattie's Prairie, the new residence of our missionaries, has proved more healthy than Barren Fork; the schools were prosperous, the number of pupils having increased to 70. Two young brethren from North-Carolina had set out in the autumn, to commence a school mid-way between their former and their present residence. Our missionaries care for their still scattered flock by means of visits, and as it appears that the government of the United States has abandoned its intention of erecting a fort in the vicinity, they hoped soon to see their Indians collected round them. The general feeling of this tribe was more peaceful and tranquil than it had been for a length of time, and Brother George Hicks, who resides at no great distance, was faithfully employing his influence with his Indian countrymen for the furtherance of the mission.

The Danish West Indies have attracted a large portion of our attention. We have noticed in our former Surveys, the changes in progress during the last two years. In the last month of the preceding year, the Brethren Breutel and Häuser arrived there, the former a member of our Mission-Board, commissioned to inquire into the present state of the mission, and assist in advising and introducing regulations suitable to the new calls upon its activity; the latter as superintendent of the mission-conference in these

islands. One main object of their consultations was, the establishment of schools for the negro children, in the first instance in the island of St. Croix, where eight handsome buildings for the purpose have been erected by government, each calculated to accommodate from 150 to 200 children.

It is self-evident that missionary labors can have no permanence, unless the Christian instruction of the young be combined with the conversion of the old; and this principle has long been recognized by our brethren. Thus Spangenberg says, in his Instructions for Missionaries: "It is one of the first duties of a missionary, to attend to the religious instruction of the children committed to his charge, and such labor will be light to him who reflects on our Saviour's words: 'Whosoever receiveth a little child in my name, receiveth me.'" Hence, wherever circumstances allowed, our brethren have established schools, in which the great object was, not a partial cultivation of the intellect, but the implantation of gospel truth in the heart. Hitherto, however, the system of slavery had interposed insuperable barriers in the way of negro education. But these obstacles are now happily removed by the emancipation of the negroes in the British Colonies, and the anxiety of the Danish Government to provide Christian instruction for the negro children under their jurisdiction. It is true, that when in 1839, Governor-General Von Scholten proposed to our Board, to undertake the general instruction of the slaves in these islands, belonging to the Danish-Lutheran, English, and Roman Churches, as well as to our own, we could not be insensible of the burden and responsibility which it involved, and we felt some hesitation as to our adequacy for the charge. When, however, we reflected on the evils resulting to our rising youth from the want of education; and, on the other hand, saw the powerful means put into our hands, for giving a new energy to the missionary work, we felt ourselves constrained to consider the invitation as from the Lord, and to comply with it, relying on his Divine assistance. On May 18th of this year, the first school-house was solemnly opened, on Great Princess Plantation, near the grave of Frederick Martin, the Apostle of this mission, whose memory is highly revered amongst the negroes, in the presence of the Governor-General, and the civil and ecclesiastical authorities of the island, the spirit of cordial co-operation for one great end evidently pervading the whole assembly. It is indeed exhilarating to see troops of colored children assembled in these schools, in perfect order and stillness, to observe their attention, to hear their cheerful singing, and to witness the effects of Christian instruction on the pupils, and the blessing which rests upon the institution; and we may confidently hope, that by God's help, it will prepare the way for a brighter futurity, and that the good impressions now made on youthful hearts, will bear rich fruit in after years, and lay a firm foundation for missionary usefulness.

It happened very providentially for the commencement of these schools, that we could engage the services of a number of able colored teachers, educated by the Mico Charity. The employment of such teachers is also a step towards the accomplishment of an

object increasingly important in the present stage of missionary exertion,—the training of assistants from the natives themselves.

We thankfully acknowledge, on this occasion, the support which has been given to our missionary labors by the Danish Government and Governor-General Von Scholten, as well as by the authorities of this island in general. Not only have the school-houses, and, when necessary, dwellings for the teachers, been erected at the expense of Government, but a considerable proportion of the current expenditure connected with the maintenance of these institutions, is contributed by its liberality.

During Brother Breutel's stay in these islands, the whole mission-work in all its departments passed under review, and while the brethren confirmed each other in their adherence to the old and well-tried principles of our Church, suitable measures were taken to meet the exigencies of the present times.

It is matter for gratitude, that the expenses of this mission have hitherto been defrayed, by means of the blessing which God has laid upon the business carried on for its support. Encouraged by the example of the great Apostle of the Gentiles, the brethren pledged themselves to faithfulness in this branch of their labors, remembering at the same time, that it must always be accounted subordinate to our main object, the proclamation of the gospel, and the care of individual souls, in which they vowed anew to show all good fidelity. Suitable regulations were made for the public services, which have to be held partly in English and partly in Creole; and the brethren were encouraged to new activity in all the various branches of their labors,—as private conversations with individuals, visits to the sick and to the plantations, a careful instruction of candidates for baptism and confirmation, and Sunday-schools for the elder youth, on quitting the weekly schools;—in short, to promote the spiritual welfare of their charge, by all the means within their power. Attention was especially directed to rooting out the remains of heathen and unscriptural usages, which still occasionally obtained in Negro marriages; and it was recognized as an important duty, to uphold the sanctity and inviolable nature of the marriage-covenant, by scriptural instruction, by a devout solemnization of the public rite, and by a faithful exercise of church-discipline against offenders.

On his return, Brother Breutel paid short visits in St. Kitts and Antigua. In these, and other settlements in the British West Indies, the Lord's work has proceeded in blessing. The mission-premises at St. John's, in Antigua, were mercifully preserved from the conflagration which broke out there on the 2d of April. Opportunities for extending our sphere of usefulness are not wanting in these islands, especially in Jamaica; but the limitation of our resources, both as to the supply of laborers and of the requisite funds for their maintenance, make it necessary for us to pause. The fatal influence of these hot climates in producing illness or sudden death, has again been painfully felt by our missionary band.

In Surinam, the past year has been signalized by the renewal of the mission amongst the Free Negroes at Bambey, suspended since

1813. While, in the West Indies, the almost universal spread of Christianity amongst the Negroes and the advance of civilization, have given a new aspect to our labors; the founding a station in these forest wilds, amongst a people still sunk in heathen darkness, brings back the events of our earliest missionary annals to our remembrance. Brother and Sister Rasmus Schmidt arrived at Gingeh, near the former Bambey, December 26th, after a fatiguing journey of six days in a narrow canoe, up the Surinam—a navigation interrupted by frequent falls and rapids—and with no other shelter for the night, than what the woods could supply. But they were comforted after their hardships, by the joyful welcome given them at Gingeh, where the Negroes had already built a church and dwelling-house for them, in their slight mode of architecture, and where they found 20 baptized persons, the remnant of the former mission. On New Year's Day, the little church could scarce contain the number of attentive hearers. Though they have both suffered from repeated attacks of fever, and met with many obstructions, from the superstitions and the savage customs of the Negroes, yet they have faithfully prosecuted their labors in the preaching of the gospel, and the instruction of the children; and, at Easter, they had the joy to baptize the first-fruits of this renewed mission. We commend them in this lonely and difficult post, to the remembrance and prayers of all our brethren and sisters, and friends. The station commenced at Salem in the Upper Nickerie district, in the preceding year, has met with much encouragement, from the eagerness of the surrounding Negro population to become acquainted with the gospel. On Palm-Sunday, the newly built church was solemnly consecrated, and eleven persons, the first-fruits of this station, received holy baptism. The church is so situated as to be easily accessible on foot by the Negroes of the surrounding plantations, and the missionary can likewise readily visit them. In the colony itself, on the other hand, the communication with the plantations, which lie wide apart from one another, can in general take place only by water, which considerably impedes the missionary work. And, after all that has been effected of late years, by the zealous exertions of the Dutch Surinam Missionary Society, and of individual friends, for the promotion of the work, it has still to struggle with many difficulties. There is a large number of places to be visited, so that much time is required for each circuit; sometimes, on the arrival of our Brethren, they find that they have come at an inconvenient season, and many plantations still remain closed against them altogether. The school at *Charlottenberg*, at which, children from various plantations were educated, in the hope of their being useful to their fellow-slaves on their return, by reading to them the New Testament, and communicating the knowledge which they had acquired of Scripture truth, has dwindled away to two pupils, the rest having been discharged at the demand of their owners. May our God grant his servants courage and perseverance, in this strife between truth and error, and soon cause His light to arise and shine on those yet darkened regions! In Paramaribo itself, the Missionary work meets with no interruption.

From South Africa, the very unexpected and painful intelligence reached us at the end of February, that it had pleased the Lord, in the inscrutable counsels of his will, to call home to his eternal joy his faithful servant, our Brother H. P. Hallbeck, Bishop of the Brethren's church, and superintendent of our Mission in that country, on the 25th of November, at the age of fifty-seven years. He had for twenty-three years, most faithfully and actively employed the distinguished talents intrusted to him by God, in this office. The vacant presidency of the Mission-Conference has been committed to Br. Teutsch, who has already served in this Mission for eighteen years; and Br. Rudolph Kölbing, teacher in the academy of Niesky, has been called to superintend the school department, which there also forms an important branch of the Missionary work. In other respects, the work of God has proceeded uninterruptedly at all our stations. *Enon* has been visited by malignant small-pox, which attacked almost every family; and it has subsequently suffered again from continued drought, after a brief period of refreshing rains. The new station amongst the Fingoos, at *Clarkson*, on the Zitzikamma, already presents a flourishing appearance. On December 12th of the preceding year, the new church was consecrated, and in the course of the present year, other buildings have been erected, while a still greater and more joyful change has taken place in the transformation of rude heathen into eager recipients of the Gospel. At the baptism of eleven adults last Easter, the new church proved too small to contain all the hearers, and the conduct of the baptized is worthy of the Gospel. They patiently endure the reproach cast upon them by their yet heathen neighbors. But, though many of the latter still manifest great hostility to the work, the attendance at the preaching increases continually. The conversion of the Tambookies at *Shiloh* proceeds more gradually. Yet here also the baptized maintain a Christian walk, and remain faithful to the grace received, notwithstanding all the allurements and scoffs of their heathen relatives.

The number of Brethren and Sisters at our fifty-six Missionary stations, amounts to 255, thirteen more than at the close of the former year. Three Brethren and three Sisters have entered into the joy of their Lord.

In concluding this brief report, we sincerely thank all our Brethren and Sisters, and friends, who kindly take an interest in the work, and support it by their benefactions, as well as every Missionary Society which has come to our assistance, and, while we wish them abundant blessing from the Lord, we commend this great work to their co-operation and intercession.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

Br. and Sr. John Chapman Cooke, members of the Brethren's Church in New-York, and the single Br. Joseph Kummer, of Bethlehem, Pa. who have been called to the service of the mission on St. Croix, sailed, on the 9th May, from New-York, in the brig Isabella, Capt. McKee. The same vessel, on her return to this country, brought out Br. and Sr. Reuben Rauch, from Antigua, who arrived

in New-York May 14th, and proceeded on the 16th to Bethlehem. The latter brought the first intelligence of the safe arrival of the Isabella and our missionaries at St. Croix in thirteen days. Letters were also received from Brother Cooke. The following is an extract of one addressed to the editor.

"FRIEDENSTHAL, (BASS END,)
St. Croix, May 24th, 1842.

"DEAR BROTHER,—I seize the opportunity to inform you, that we arrived safe at our destination, in thirteen days from New-York. Brother Kummer stood the sea very well, and Sister Cooke has now quite recovered. I am happy to inform you that she was not as sick on the voyage as I had anticipated. Nothing of moment occurred on the passage: we had fine weather all the way. On the second day out, I proposed to Capt. KcKee to hold divine worship on board, to which he readily assented, and we had a prayer meeting every morning, attended by ourselves and all the crew. On the following Sunday morning, I prayed our Church Litany, and in the afternoon preached from Matthew, vii. 13. On the following Sunday afternoon I preached from Acts, ix. 11, in sight of St. Croix.

"We are at present at Friedensthal, but on Thursday we leave here for Friedensberg (West End), to supply the place of Brother Kleiner, who is quite sick, and disabled, by a stroke of the sun, from attending to his duties. We shall remain there three, four, or six months, but as this is the station allotted us, we shall then return. Brother Kummer is appointed to the middle station, Friedensfeld. He is to leave here shortly.

"I cannot at present inform you particularly of the state of our mission on this Island, as our local documents are all made out in German, and the translations have not yet been made.

"St. Croix is in a most deplorable state, on account of the want of rain—none of consequence having fallen for twelve months—and water for the cattle has to be carted in many instances from two to three miles.

"To-night is our Tuesday night-meeting in the church at which I am to preach. Having arrived only last Sunday, after the afternoon service, I cannot describe to you the meetings at present. Our time is fully employed from 5 o'clock in the morning."

In the month of March last. the single Brother Benjamin Ricksecker, who has been engaged a number of years as teacher and assistant in the mission on St. Kitts, came to this country, and having been united in matrimony with the single Sister Charlotte Eberman, daughter of Brother Joseph Eberman, member of the Brethren's Church in Lancaster, Pa., and ordained to the ministry by Brother Andrew Benade, at Bethlehem, Pa., he sailed June 21st, with his wife, from New-York, in the brig Motto, Capt. Forbes, for St. Thomas. The single Sister Emma E. Ricksecker, daughter of Brother Peter Ricksecker, missionary on St. Kitts, having completed her education at the young ladies' seminary at Bethlehem, went with them, and will be engaged in the labors of the schools, &c. Br.

Ricksecker, during his stay in New-York, communicated to the children of the Sunday school interesting particulars relative to the schools, and illustrative of the eagerness and assiduity of the negro children to avail themselves of their privileges, and to profit by them. He had with him and exhibited a number of specimens of penmanship and composition of the scholars. The writing was quite as good as that of children of the same age in our schools in this country. The compositions were letters addressed to their teacher on the eve of his departure for the United States, and were performed without the least aid. The following is one written by a lad of eleven years of age, and inserted here without correction.

"*Basseterre*, (*St. Kitts*,) *Feb.* 16*th*, 1842.

"My dear Teacher,

I have taken my pen in hand to write you these few lines, though unworthy to address you; yet I feel it my duty, for all your kindness to me: and I hope the Lord may reward you. And as you are going to leave us, I hope the Lord may carry you safe to your distant place, North America, and bring you back again safely under his protecting care.

"Dear Teacher, May the Lord bless you and keep you while you are upon the deep ocean, and guard you from all dangers: for he said unto his disciples a little before he ascended into heaven, 'Lo I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.' Mat. c. 28, 20 v. So I am confident that he will take care of you, and be with you for ever. I also ask the favor of you, please to remember me kindly to all the friends, and particularly the children, who have send these pretty things for us, and I hope they will continue in doing so. Though we have nothing at present to give you, yet we hope the Lord may reward you all, and let his blessing attend you for ever. I likewise ask you to remember me kindly to your dear sisters and brothers, and particularly Miss Euphemia Ricksecker, thanking her for all the kindness to us, in sending us such pretty little books, of which we are very fond. May the Lord bless and keep them, and let them prosper.

"Dear Teacher, I hope you will remember me truly in your prayers. I must conclude and say the following lines:

'May the grace of Christ our Saviour,
And the Father's boundless love,
With the Holy Spirit's favor,
Rest upon you from above.
Thus may we unite in union
With each other in the Lord,
And possess in sweet communion,
Joys which earth cannot afford."

"Excuse bad writings and faults.

I remain your affectionate scholar,

John Wm. Saunders."

From the Journal of a Scripture Reader in Ireland, 1840.

I entered the house of a blind man, whom I had more than once reproved for his neglect of the means of grace, after I had seen him

walk on the roads. I asked him, why he neglected attending the House of God. He replied; "I am blind and must have some body to lead me, for I find it difficult to travel alone." I said, "You could find some to lead you the other day from chapel to attend a funeral, and why can you not get as much done for you on the Lord's-day, that you might worship God?" He answered; "I am afraid that the fault lies in a great measure with myself. I know I am too careless, for I might get out some times if I wished it." I replied, "If the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear! To this he made answer; "Sometimes I am sincere, and at others I am very careless." I replied; "You are just like Judah and Israel of old, of whom God said, 'O Ephraim, what shall I do unto thee? for your goodness is as a morning cloud, and the early dew it goeth away.' How is it that you dissemble with yourself, and deal dishonestly with your soul? Break off these ways, and give yourself unto the Lord." I read to him the 42nd chapter of Jeremiah.

VERSES

FOR THE CENTENARY ANNIVERSARY OF "THE BRETHREN'S SOCIETY FOR THE FURTHERANCE OF THE GOSPEL,"

Held in London at Fetter-Lane Chapel on Friday, Nov. 19th, 1841.

THE following beautiful and impressive Stanzas, appended to an account of the origin and progress of this Society, contained in a late number of the Periodical Accounts, for which we have no room at present, will require no apology for insertion, beyond what is supplied by the subject of which they treat, the name with which they are subscribed, and the circumstance, that the "Society for the Furtherance of the Gospel" has the privilege of numbering the esteemed Author among its members.

On the day on which they were composed, the congregations of the Brethren throughout the world, were engaged in a thankful commemoration of an important event in the history of their Church,—the discontinuance, a hundred years before, of the office of the General Elder of the Brethren's Unity, and the solemn covenant, made with the Lord Jesus Christ by their Spiritual forefathers, that they would yield Him henceforward, their undivided allegiance, their entire confidence, and their unreserved submission.

ALL HAIL! our Church's ELDER dear!
JESUS, her glorious HEAD!
To thy disciples now appear,
As risen from the dead;
Let our rejoicing Souls, in Thee,
The tokens of thy passion see,
And hear thy gentle voice anew
Say—"Peace be unto you!"

Remembering what our Fathers told,
Thou didst in their young day,
This solemn Jubilee we hold,
That we, as then did they,
Ourselves in covenant may bind,
With soul and strength, with heart and mind,
Through life, in death, on land, o'er sea,
Meekly to follow Thee.

Revive thy work amidst the years;
Our Brethren still employ,
On heathen soils to sow in tears.
With hope, to reap in joy;
Though wide the fields, the laborers few,
If Thou our failing faith renew,

The weakest of thy Servants, we
Can do all things, through Thee.

Through Thee, from Greenland's sterile rocks,
Rich harvests have been led;
In Indian forests, wandering flocks,
With heavenly knowledge fed;
In Island-prisons, o'er the sea,
Bond-slaves have been made gospel-free;
'Midst Lion-haunts, on Afric-sands,
Strange tribes lift holy hands.

To day, one world-neglected race,
We fervently commend
To Thee, and to thy word of grace;
Lord, visit and befriend
A people scatter'd, peel'd, and rude,
By land and ocean-solitude
Cut off from every kinder shore,
In *dreary* Labrador.

Thither, while to and fro she steers,
Still guide our annual bark,
By night and day, through hopes and fears,
While, lonely as the Ark,
Along her single track, she braves
Gulphs, whirlpools, ice-fields, winds, and waves,
To waft glad tidings to the shore
Of *longing* Labrador.

How welcome to the watcher's eye,
From morn till even fix'd,
The first faint speck that shews her nigh,
Where surge and sky are mix'd!
Till looming, large, and larger yet,
With bounding prow, and sails full set,
She speeds to anchor on the shore
Of *joyful* Labrador.

Then hearts with hearts, and souls with souls,
In thrilling transport meet,
Though broad and dark the Atlantic rolls
Between their parted feet:
For letters thus, with boundless range,
Thoughts, feelings, prayers can interchange,
And once a year, join Britain's shore
To *kindred* Labrador.

Then, at the Vessel's glad return,
The absent meet again;
At home, our hearts within us burn,
To trace the cunning pen,
Whose strokes, like rays from star to star,
Bring happy messages from far,
And once a year, to Britain's shore
Join *Christian* Labrador.

O Thou! in whom we all are one,
If faithful found and true;
Thy will on Earth by each be done,
As each in heaven might do;
To thee ourselves we first would give—
Live to thy glory, while we live—
From step to step on Thee rely,
Then, in thy service die.

JAMES MONTGOMERY.

The Mount near Sheffield, Nov. 13, 1841.

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